THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 21ST APRIL.

MR. W. S. SETON-KARR, who unsuccessfully contested the representation of Rochester at the last election, has we observe, been again accepted as the Conservative candidate in that city at the next election. In his address to the electors at Chatham he declared the late administration responsible for the Zulu War, as it was the annexation of the Transvaal that had brought it about. Sir Bartle Frere's ultimatum had of course nothing to do with the war. This does not seem to be a very fair specimen of the political sagacity or morality of the candidate.

THE SPECTACLE of the Heir Apparent to the throne of England accepting a gift from the republic of France, says a London correspondent, is a sight worthy of the spirit of the age. The Prince of Wales whilst passing through Paris on his return home was waited upon by the representatives of the Department of Fine Arts, and presented with the models of a complete table service of China which is being specially manufactured at the famous Sevres establishment, by the order of the French Government. This table service is to be formally presented to him as a souvenir of his presidency of the British Commission at the late Exhibition.

AN EMPHATIC contradiction has been given from St. Petersburg to the late reports regarding the serious differences existing between the Czar and the Czarewitch. Sometimes however these high personages protest too much.

A NEW planet is said to have been discovered on the 1st of March at Marseilles by M. Coggra, thus increasing the number of the asteroids to 193, of which 59 have been discovered in France.

THE 72ND ANNIVERSARY of Longfellow's birthday was recently celebrated by the children of Cambridge presenting him with a chair made of the spreading chesnut tree under which the village smithy stood, until the march of improvement swept tree and smithy aside. Around the seat, in raised letters, are the lines from "The Village Blacksmith" beginning—

"And children coming home from school."

HERR ANDERSSEN, the celebrated Chessplayer, died at Breslau on the 14th instant.

THE ACADEMY understands that the committee of the Royal Geographical Society, assisted by Dr. W. W. Hunter, are engaged in considering the question of the adoption of a uniform method of spelling geographical names in their publications.

A CORRESPONDENT at Perozepore, in Backergunge, says that, besides a cattle plague, cholera has been raging most virulently in that sub-division. Within the 19 villages of the Tushkhally Government estate about thirty to forty persons are dying daily. In Charakhally, close to the Perozepore town, from four to five persons are said to be carried off every day. Deaths are numerous within the Mudbariah Thanah and Pararehat.

A VERY clever forgery of Court-fee Stamps has just been discovered in Calcutta. The imitation is so perfect that it is doubted whether the work could have been done anywhere but in Europe. It is supposed that these counterfeits have been very extensively used and for some considerable time. The police are on the alert.

TUESDAY, 22ND APRIL.

IT NEVER RAINS BUT POURS. The Empire of Brazil, it is stated, has been afflicted by famine, cholera, yellow fever, and small-pox, since last June, and now the plague has broken out. In some parts of the empire 50 per cent. of the inhabitants have been swept away.

MR. ARCHIBALD FORBES asserts that during the imbroglio with Shere Ali, the Viceroy communicated direct with the Queen, one telegram alone costing Rs. 1,100. He asks, who paid for it, Her Majesty or the Viceroy, England or India? The latter as a matter of course.

WE SEE it stated that there are thirty-four Government Engineers in the Punjab, for whom no employment can be found. And how many more elsewhere? But nothing is done to relieve the Indian Treasury of this burden. If these men had been natives, they would have been long since abolished.

ACCORDING to a contemporary a gold mine has been discovered in Dehra Doon.

A CANADIAN LOAN of three million dollars has been taken up by a syndicate of New York bankers. Why should not America come forward and take up Indian loans as well?

HOW DEEPLY all classes of Russian Society are penetrated by the Nihilist spirit appears from a fact stated by a St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Basler Nachrichten*. It appears that no less than three young ladies of high birth took a leading part in the late outbreak at Kieff. The policeman who was killed during the struggle fell by a ball aimed at him from a revolver, which was fired by Olga Raffowska. Two preliminary meetings of Nihilists were held before the affray—one composed exclusively of men, the other of women. At the latter, according to the same authority appeared the daughter of General Gerstfeld—whose father lives in St. Petersburg, and belongs to the highest official class of the Empire—and the enthusiastic Countess Panin. The name of the young Countess is inscribed on the books of the University of Kieff. She is a zealous student, and renowned for her singular beauty. Her mother is dead, but her mother-in-law is a Court dame of the Russian Empress, and a power in St. Petersburg society. Her great grandfather was a favourite of the Empress Katherine, and was the second Imperial Chancellor of the Russian Empire.

THE CREAM TREE.—There grows in South America a wonderful tree, which has been called the cow tree, from the fact that it yields a milk so like that produced by the cow, that the inhabitants use it for domestic purposes in lieu of cow's milk. A French chemist has lately carefully analysed several specimens, and finds that in its properties, this curious vegetable production much nearer approaches cream than milk. In fact it is much more abundantly rich in butter and saporific matters than milk. Such a tree, remarks a contemporary, would be invaluable in India, more especially in such places as Wynaad, where milk is often with difficulty procured. The tree grows in Venezuela and New Valencia, and its botanical name is *Brosunnum galactodendron;* the natives call it Palo de Vacha. It grows in extensive forests, and attains a height of 100 feet or more. We strongly recommend this marvel to the notice of our Agri-Horticultural Society.

INTELLIGENCE has been received at Lisbon that the Portuguese African explorer, Pinto, who was separated from his companions at Bibe, has succeeded in crossing Africa from west to east, and has arrived at the Transvaal.

WEDNESDAY, 23RD APRIL.

A UNIVERSITY for colored men is about to be established in New York. The main object of the institution will, it is stated, be the education of young colored men for teachers among the Southern blacks. White men who desire to devote themselves to the same purpose will, however, be admitted. The studies are to include the classics, higher mathematics, and all the branches usually included in a regular college course. A large sum of money has already been pledged to the enterprise by twenty rich citizens of New York, many of them colored men.

CAPTAIN PITCHER, in his report on famine mortality in Northern India, says that for April and May of last year the deaths

"Were attributed by the people themselves in most cases to the, what may be called, poisonous actions of new grain on stomachs enfeebled by insufficient nourishment. Whole households were often carried off by one fatal meal. And there is a weed called *batua* which seems to be resorted to a good deal by people in distress, though it is a terribly dangerous food. These plants, with some others under the collective name of *sag*, are gathered in all years, and eaten in moderation by all classes as a vegetable accompaniment to their meal of grain. There is nothing whatever deleterious in them when eaten in small quantities. I have tried both and found the *batua* to differ in no respect from ordinary spinach. But eaten to excess, *batua* produces a fatal form of diarrhœa. The general opinion was that so long as a man could get salt to mix with *batua*, and not less than four quittacks of grain to add to it, a long period could be tided over safely, but salt was said to be indispensable, and at widely distant points I heard the same expression—'Those who died were those who could not get salt to eat with their *batua*.' With or without salt, however, diet of nothing but *batua* for four or five days was, so they said, more than the strongest they could stand."

WE NOTICE the death of Sir James Matheson, remarkable as the second largest landed proprietor in the British Isles, and as a man who struggled to the top against difficulties of an unusual kind. Though a well-born man, he was compelled by his family circumstances to accept, at a very early age, a clerkship in Calcutta, and was dismissed by his employers as "too stupid even for trade." At the earnest request of the Baptist Missionary, Dr. Marshman, who was interested in young Matheson's character, the firm agreed to give him a further trial of six months in their China branch. The incident worked up some latent power in Matheson; he made in China a splendid fortune, and returned to Scotland probably the richest subject in that kingdom. He purchased the island of Lewes, and resided there the greater part of his subsequent life, expending, it is said, nearly half a million for the benefit of his subjects, who, nevertheless, never took to him. There has been endless controversy about the fights between his factors and the islanders, but Sir James was, says the *London Spectator*, a thorough upright man, and a genuine philanthrophist, spoiled by inability to understand how he could ever be wrong, when his intentions were so right,

WE TAKE the following from an English paper:

American Exports.—The annual export trade of the United States amounts to a value of about $656,000,000 or £131,200,000. Towards this large amount raw cotton, wheat, tobacco, live stock, provisions, and dairy produce, contribute the largest share; but the export trade of America includes many curious items which go to shew the resources of the country and the energy of American producers in finding markets for their goods. Regular exports of plum pudding, for instance, are made, and the business of making and securing, or preserving in tins, both plum puddings and minced meat for export to Europe is carried on at Dover (Delaware), Philadelphia, and other places. American confectionery is also regularly sent to South America and the West Indies. Toys are also a considerable item in the export lists of the States—France and Germany being the principal customers, though large quantities are bought up by English houses. The correspondence, which lately appeared in the *Times* shewed the extent to which American locks are used in this country. Among similar metal goods we find steel pens are manufactured in Essex (Massachusettes) for sale in England, while American egg whisks, nutmeg graters, and other small household articles are in great demand. A Boston company turning out 8,000 cans, or 24,000lb. of baked beans and codfish balls daily, finds a large outlet for both articles in England, France and South America. Steamship agents in New York say that "potatoes for Ireland are the commonest things in the world;" and oatmeal is frequently shipped to Glasgow. In Germany the clippings or refuse of the cigars made in America have recently found a market at from 9c. to 5c. per lb. Formerly these clippings were allowed to accumulate in the cigar manufactories for months, till a speculator happened to come across a heap, which he bought "of a song."

An example for India.

THE PALL MALL GAZETTE has the following on Indian military expenditure:

The military expenditure of India at the present moment is put by the Finance Minister himself at the sum of £17,000,000. The largest part of this is of course spent on the 60 000 European troops whom we maintain in the country. Though it is possible that in future years we may be able to reduce this force by 5,000 or even 10,000 men, no one in his senses would propose any such reduction just now. Consequently economy can only be applied to the manner in which these troops are engaged and used. On two points with respect to our Indian army at the present time there is a very general spirit of agreement. The Introduction of short service for troops in India, whether successful or not at home, is for that country both inefficient and expensive. Not only are boys sent out who return just as they are seasoned to the climate, but the additional cost of constant transport and military depots at home swells the Budget enormously. Over many items of these home charges, as also over the payment of the troops the financial authorities in India constantly urge that they have no control. Expenditure may be forced upon them against which they can do no more than protest. It would appear, therefore, that both on the grounds of economy and efficiency a return to a moderately long term of the service for India is advisable. Here we may hope for the first steps towards more economical management, and for a diminution of those home charges which have contributed so largely to embarrass Indian finance. With a long-service system for India and care exercised in every department by the Indian Government itself it would speedily appear that Lord Canning's estimate for the total cost of our Indian army would not be so inadequate as many now suppose it,

But the ministry are deaf to the cries of reason. We are tired of writing and talking on the subject.

THE INDIAN TRADE returns for eleven months of the past official year show a falling off in the value of both imports and exports of merchandize. Comparing these figures with those for the same period of 1877-78 we find a decline of over 2 crores in the value of merchandize imported and a decline of over 4½ crores in the value of Indian merchandize export-

ed. The decrease in the value of cotton goods imported would more than account for the decline in the total amount of imports; whilst the decline in the value of Indian exports would likewise be more than explained by the decrease in the value of wheat and seeds exported, to say nothing of raw cotton and indigo.

MR. S. JACOB C.S. has been specially selected to make the Indexes to the General Acts of the Government of India.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE has acknowledged the care and ability with which Mr. Elliott's Mysore Famine Report has been written, and the good work performed by him and the Famine officers under him. On all questions raised in the Report, Lord Cranbrook has reserved his opinion pending the submission and review of the Report of the Famine Commission.

BISHOP COLENSO has received a letter from Cetewayo announcing the tidings, which to him, he says, are almost incredibly grievous and astonishing—namely, that the English Government, to whom he was always friendly and with whom he wished to be at peace and in alliance, have declared war against him. "They are now coming," he says, "to invade my country, and spill the blood of my people—surely a bad return for my reliance upon them." The King then tells the bishop that he sends the message to him as "a just and good chief among the white men, who had always tried to have right done to the Zulu people," telling him (the Bishop) to move away with his household to a place of safety lest in the course of the war the Zulu army might reach Pietermaritzburg, and, not knowing the bishop, might slay him as a foe. "But" adds Cetewayo "should you find danger from my people coming near you, send a message, so that I may afford you all necessary protection, as we shall make war only on enemies, not on men of peace and justice." So Cetewayo seems to practise Christianity better than those, who profess it or have been born to it.

THURSDAY, 24TH APRIL.

BABU DENONATH BANERJEA of Gorolgacha has sent us a letter giving the history of repeal of road tolls in the district of Howrah. We noticed it at the time, and need not therefore recapitulate the facts.

MR. GORDON, the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, has been gradually Indianizing the local administration in view of the approaching Restoration. He has appointed Mr. Rangacharlu to be Secretary to the Mysore Government. A better selection could not have been made.

WE SEE it stated that the Bishop of Madras issued a Circular to all Missionaries and Chaplains belonging to his Diocese, asking that one of the eight days commencing from the 20th of May be considered as a day of special intercession for the prosperity of Missionary work in India. Why not also appoint a day of Special Prayer to Heaven to bless the rulers of the land with sense and goodness in the administration of the country?

THE NATIVE GENTLEMEN of Madras have established an Asylum for famine orphans to be conducted on orthodox Hindu principles. The number of orphans to be thus maintained is limited to 50. The capital required is estimated at Rs. 60,000, of which the Raja of Vencatagiri has promised Rs. 10,000. Why should not Government give a grant-in-aid? It gives such aid to Missionaries, who similarly take charge of orphans.

SIR CHARLES TURNER, the new Chief Justice of Madras, has been speechifying. At the last distribution of prizes to the students of the Doveton College he said:

"We hear a great deal about the bankruptcy of India, but there is reason to believe that in a short time India will become much richer than it has ever been. Because in India there exists a real gold mine, richer than any elsewhere, in the enormous amount of labour in the country. We have established, cotton and tea industries; capital and intelligence only are required to open others. Capital will increase yearly the more these industries thrive; and it is for us to find intelligence. You only require education to enable you to do all that is now performed by men imported at a great cost into India. We can produce engineers at Roorkee who are able to compete with Cooper's Hill-men; and we must look around us for our own professional men, physicians, lawyers, and ministers.

All this reads well enough on paper, but what encouragement do young educated men receive from Government? Roorkee it is true produces engineers but has not Government ruled that the Cooper Hill men should have precedence over them? So much for the encouragement given by Government to indeginous talent and labour.

FRIDAY, 25TH APRIL.

WE LEARN from the *East* that at a recent meeting of the People's Association, Dacca, a resolution was passed "expressive of condolence for the untimely extinction of the *Shomprokash* and gratitude for the considerable benefits rendered by it to the Vernacular literature." We think the demise of the *Shomprokash* ought to be made a common cause for a general movement throughout India for the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act.

THE SAME PAPER has the following:

Scandals in connection with the operation of the License tax will perhaps never cease. We are surprised to hear that a Circle Officer drawing a salary of Rs. 75 per mensem hears the appeals of cases decided by another Circle Officer who is his closest relation and who draws a pay of Rs. 100 a month.

Not a bad arrangement! Who is the original character that has devised it?

THE PIONEER says: "We have received definite assurances from the Adjutant-General that no orders have been issued by the Commander-in-Chief restraining officers from corresponding with the Press beyond those, issued about November last at the beginning of the war, which prohibited staff officers from corresponding. The Commander-in Chief has distinctly declared that all other officers are at liberty to make whatever arrangements they like about correspondence." If military officers are permitted to write to the papers, why should an embargo be put upon the liberty of the civil officers?

WE HAVE received from the Press Commissioner a circular from which it appears that the Secretary of State wants some information regarding the Police Force in India. He has asked for returns, showing for each province the number of officers in each rank and grade in the controlling staff; the average pay of each class for the year after the reorganization of the police as compared with the averages of last year; and distinguishing the numbers of military officers, covenanted civilians and uncovenanted civiiians, in each rank. His Lordship also desires "to be furnished with a return of the allowances of military officers in police employ, which shall also show what their military allowance under ordinary promotion would have been during such employment in the police force." We wish Lord Cranbrook had enquired what proportion of Police officers on receipt of Rs. 300 per month and upwards are Europeans, Eurasians and Natives.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* gives the following account of the mela at Hardwar:

It is believed that the *mela* must have numbered somewhere between 750,000 and a million of souls. The arrangements for their encampments were, however so complete, that all found their places without the least confusion, and the sanitary measures worked so well, that you might ride all over the area occupied without encountering anything offensive. Cholera seemed to have disappeared, and the storm and rain of the previous week had so cooled the atmosphere, that everything promised a happy termination to the exertions of those who had laboured so assidnously for the welfare of all. The bright moonlight too added greatly to our comfort.

Bathing at Hurdwar, during such a *mela*, may be said never to cease, for day and night the Behm Khund is scarcely ever empty. All day on the 11th the Police were obliged to be present up to 11 o'clock P. M. They were on the ground again at 2 clock A. M. on the 12th, and from that time till 10 o'clock, at night they were obliged to remain at their posts. Access for the multitude to the bathing ghat was chiefly by the Saharanpur road, which lies outside of the main bazaar and by the Dehra road, these meeting at the ghat itself. Up till 9 o'clock the ghat was given up to the common people, who were passed through with as much speed as was possible the whole mass emerging from the bathing place by the road that skirts the western bank of the canal, and returning to the island by two bridges, a short distance below. At 9 o'clock the first great procession of fakirs made their appearance on the scene. Access for them was by a bridge to the north of the bathing ghat. They had been escorted up the Grand Central Avenue in the island by one of the Assistant Superintendents of Police, and were met at the bridge by the Magistrate.

By far the most numerous and the most disreputable in appearance were the Bairagis. These mustered over 10,000 strong. During their passage over the bridge an incident, which was accompanied by serious consequences to some of themselves, occurred. Unable to restrain their enthusiasm, a large number, from 200 to 300 of them, leaped from the bridge into the main current of the canal. Most of those who could swim were taken up at the nearest bridge, but it is feared that a considerable number of them sank before they could reach it. The number who thus perished is not known but the fakirs themselves say there were not more than 80 or 90. This event occurred between 11 and 12 o' clock, in the presence of tens of thousand of spectators, and demonstrates how utterly impossible it is to restrain such fanatics when they wilfully break through all laws of restraint.

THE VICEROY arrived at Simla on last Wednesday evening about six o'clock attended by the Military Secretary and was received with usual honors.

SATURDAY, 26TH APRIL.

WE LEARN that Babu Gopal Chandra Mookerjee the Sub-editor of the Sungbad Provakur is engaged in the work of publishing a translation into Bengalee of Mr. Wheeler's "History of the Imperial Assemblage."

IN ACCORDANCE with the recommendation of the Government of India, the Secretary of State has sanctioned the retention of Lieutenant General Sir H. Daly K. C. B. in the Office of Agent to the Governor-General for Central India for a further period of six months dating from the 1st instant.

THERE WERE 281 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 19th April, of which 32 were from cholera, 59 from small-pox, 77 from fever, 20 from bowel conplaints, and the rest from other causes. There were four deaths from suicide.

THE SALARY of the Superintendent of the Statistical Branch of the Etcetra Department which has hitherto been Rs. 300 a month rising to Rs. 400 a month, has been advanced to 400 rising to 800 per mensem, owing to the great increase in the work of the statistical branch. Has this increase been given to accommodate a white man?

IN ACKNOWLEDGING the reports transmitted from India, showing the progress made during 1877 towards the destruction of wild animals and venomous snakes Lord Cranbrook writes in a despatch dated 20th February:

I observe that out of the total number of persons killed, viz 19,695,16,777 deaths were reported to be from snake-bites being 831 in excess of the number of deaths stated to have occurred in 1876 from the same cause. The total number of cattle killed was 53,197, of which only 4945 were destroyed by snakes as against 6,468 in the previous year. I shall await the result of the proposal made by your Government to the local Governments that the Municipal bodies should offer rewards for the destruction of snakes in towns and large villages.

(2.) It is satisfactory to find that the number of persons who were killed by tigers, wolves, &c, decreased from 3337 in 1876 to 2918 in 1877 and that there has been at the same time a small decrease in the total number of cattle destroyed by wild animals and snakes viz 53,197 in 1877 as against 54,630 in 1870.

(3). I trust that the efforts of the local Government and administrations will continue to be exerted towards obtaining still more satisfactory results."

THE CALCUTTA SMALL CAUSE COURT has passed an important decision as to the rights of auctioneers to bid for goods sent them for sale. It has ruled that "an auctioneer is simply an agent, and stands in the position of a trustee to his employers; in bidding at his own sales he clearly commits a breach of trust." This decision will put an end to many a low trick.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER. The *Pioneer* now notices Dr. Rajendralala Mitra's valuable paper on the ancient caligraphy of India, which we had noticed about a year and a half ago. The writer thus begins:

"Dr. Rajendralala Mitra's report on his operations for collecting information about Sanscrit manuscripts in native libraries, which is given in the volume lately published by the Government of India on this subject, is a mine of curious knowledge about the paper and caligraphy of ancient writings. The Doctor enters into the matter with the zeal of a mediæval manuscript collector. The preservation of records is an important question, and some of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra's remarks might be borne in mind by the Government."

The writer thus concludes:

Dr. Rajendralala Mitra rightly observes that the records of our Mofussil courts should be written on arsenicised paper, instead of the ordinary English foolscap, which is so rapidly destroyed both by climate and also by white-ants. It is curious to find that the art of making durable paper should so long have been established in the country. The earliest manuscript met with, in the doctor's research, was between 500 and 600 years old, and the paper is of very good quality. He does not pretend to settle the antiquity of the art, or whether the Hindus learnt it from the Chinese but as he says, it may be argued that those who manipulated cotton so successfully as to convert it into the finest fabric known to man, would find no difficulty in manufacturing paper out of it. Although paper was most commonly used by the ancient scribes, yet many valuable MSS. are written on palm leaves, bark, metal and wood. There is a copy of the *Bhagavadgita*, a hundred years old, which is written on a piece of bark ten inches by eight. The letters are so small that they are illegible to the naked eye, and require a magnifying glass to be read. In Bengal the sacred work known as the *Chandi* is still written on palm-leaves, as there is a prejudice against the formal reading of that work from paper MSS. A similar prejudice against printed Bible existed in Europe when printing was first introduced.

We are surprised that no action has yet been taken on the practical suggestions of Dr. Rajendralala on the subject.

POOR SIR JOHN STRACHEY! Even the *Pioneer* does not support his financial policy. It says: "The Secretary of State had repeatedly, in answering Manchester deputations, given India the widest assurance that the cotton duties should not be touched till the finances of India were in such a state that they could be remitted without being replaced by fresh taxation. So the authors of the present budget seem to have thought it well to avoid imposing fresh taxation in the same breath by which the cotton duties were remitted. But in borrowing, as they have done, merely to pay their way, they render fresh taxation inevitable in the future, and Mr. Hyndman points this out." But will the Lord not save us from this financial blindness of the Government of India?

MR. HYNDMAN in his letter to the *Pall Mall Gazette* on the Indian Budget says, "rigid economy in every department of Indian finance is an absolute necessity for the welfare of the country." The *Pioneer*, in endorsing this sentiment, remarks: "At present we have parsimony in some departments and waste in others, the waste telling on the ultimate result much more powerfully than the parsimony. In the Government of India in fact there is too much "high-farming." The whole administration is

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over-scientific, over-civilised, over-philanthrophic, and it cannot go on so for ever." Quite so. But who is to put the house in order? Not Sir John Strachey; he is not the man for Galway.

PEN AND INK Sketches of Native Life in Northern India. It is proposed to republish, in a separate volume, three different series of papers bearing the above title which were contributed, "by a Hindu," to the *Madras Mail* and the *Madras Times* during the years 1877-78. The sketches, which are from an entirely Native point of view, are descriptive of the various Castes and Professions in Madras and deal chiefly with such points of interest in the 'inner social life' of the Hindu people as do not, from the very nature of things, lie within the range of the ordinary European observer. We wish the project every success.

THE BANK OF BENGAL has reduced the rate of interest from 9 to 8 per cent.

THE BEHAR HERALD records the death of Syed Abu Syed Khan Bahadur, zemindar of Patna and Gya, and Secretary of the Patna Literary Society. Our contemporary says that the deceased was a public-spirited and intelligent zemindar of Behar, and the leader of the Sunni sect of the Mohamedans at Patna. In consideration of his services during the Famine of 1873-74, he was made on the recommendation of the Government of Sir Richard Temple a Khan Bahadur on the occasion of the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi.

THE following is from the Press Commissioner: A Bill for establishing Rural Police in British Burmah and enabling the Local Government to impose a cess for this object has been submitted by the Chief Commissioner and will soon be laid before the Legislative Council. Additions to the number and salary of the lower grades of the regular police in the same province which will cost about Rs. 129,000 per annum have been sanctioned. The increase in the salary of the lower ranks has been necessitated by the increased price of food and the rise in wages in British Burmah.

THE public are cautioned by the Head Commissioner of Paper Currency to exercise great care in the receipt of Bombay notes of Rs. 50 of the series M-35.

DEATH HAS at last relieved Beni Gopal Mookerjea, the author of the Road Cess swindling at Krishnaghur. Our Krishnaghur correspondent reported lately that he has been carried off by small-pox.

WE ARE sorry to learn that the wife of Babu Sreenath Roy of Colootollah met with a watery grave this morning when she went to bathe in the river. There was a hole near Mullick's Ghat made by the dredging machine of the Port Commissioners; she had put her foot into it and was at once carried away by the current. The corpse was however seen soon after and carried to the house of Babu Sreenath Roy where post mortem examination was held, and the body then disposed of for cremation. We are sorry that the body was subjected to dissection; the accident was clear, and the body might have been disposed of without hurting the feelings of the family. This accident we hope will lead the Port Commissioners to station watch-men to warn persons from coming to such points, as have been worked by the dredging machine.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Progress Report on Forest Administration in Bengal for 1877-78. 2. Report on the Madras Cyclone of May 1877. By J. Eliot Esq. M. A. 3. The Rajputana Gazetteer, Vol. I. 4. Report on the Police Adminstration of the Central Provinces for 1878. 5. Indian Postal Guide for 1879. 6. The Quarterly Journal of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha Vol. I. No. 4, April, 1879. 7. Journal of the National Indian Association, No. 100, April, 1879. 8. Modern Thought—a new monthly published at London, Vol. I. Nos. 1 and 2. 9. Notes on Drunkenness as a Phase of our Progress. By Wooma Churn Dass, Monghyr. 10. Bharta Bhaishajya Tattwa or a Hand-Book of Meteria Madica and Therapeutics on Indian Drugs in Bengali. By Umbica Churn Rakhit. 11. Deshachar or National Customs—a Poem in Bengali.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, April 22nd.—Advices from Capetown dated 8th April state that Lord Chelmsford's Camp at Gingholova was repeatedly and fiercely attacked by a force of 11,000 Zulus at day-break on the 2nd April. The Zulus were however repulsed with a loss of 1,200 killed whilst the British loss was but trifling. On the night of the 4th April Lord Chelmsford with the 91st, 60th and 57th Regiments, besides a detachment of Marines, relieved Colonel Pearson at Ekowe. Ekowe was afterwards evacuated by our troops the Garrison returning to the Tugela river. The total British loss during the engagement fought at Wood's Camp on the 28th and 29th March was 220 killed including Lieutenant Nicholson, Royal Horse Artillery, Lieutenant Bright, 90th Foot, Lieutenant Johnson, 99th Foot and Captain Barton and Colonel Weatherly. The total loss of the Zulus in the same engagement was 2,500. It is reported that the Boers threaten to invest Pretoria and detain the Governor and High Commissioner Sir Bartle Frere unless their demands are granted. The House of Commons has assented to the introduction of a ministerial bill allowing banks of unlimited liability to register with reserved liability.

22nd.—An official despatch respecting the fighting at Gingholova on the 2nd April confirms that already received by Reuter. After one and a-half hours fighting the enemy retired precipitately and were pursued by our men for some miles. The Zulu loss is estimated at 1,000 killed. After the relief of Colonel Pearson at Ekowe Lord Chelmsford returned to Gingholova. The Camp at Ekowe has been abandoned, and a new entrenched Camp formed on the coast road.

22nd.—In the Commons, Sir S. Northcote, replying to a question, said the Viceroy had telegraphed on the 3rd April that in compliance with a despatch of Lord Cranbrook's, no advance on Cabul would be made without authority from the Home Government. A further British advance to the front might be necessary in order to be prepared for everything and to support the negociations. An advance on Gandamak he said might be desirable, owing to the superiority of the climate there as compared to Jellalabad. Messages were still passing between Major Cavagnari and Yakoob Khan, but it was at present inexpedient to make any statement as to details.

25th.—The Under Foreign Secretary, replying to a question, said that, from information Government had received, he did not believe that a Persian advance on Herat had been undertaken. The Chief Judge of the High Court of Madras has been knighted.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 1st May at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Chemical Origin of Voltaic Electricity.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on Saturday the 3rd May next, at 4 P. M.

Subject: Hydrochloric Acid.

The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1879.

ANNEXATION.

FRAILTY, said the Poet, thy name is woman. Inconsistency, say we, thy name is Beaconsfield. It is edifying to contrast the principles, which Lord Beaconsfield has from time to time enunciated with regard to Affghansthan, with those which he has been lately advancing in respect of Zululand. In speaking in the House of Lords on the Zulu war, His Lordship stood up as an uncompromising enemy of annexation. His Lordship said: "I know it is said that when we are at war, as we unfortunately now are, with the Zulus or any other savage nation, even though we inflicted upon them some great disaster and might effect an arrangement with them of a peaceable character, before long the same Power would again attack us unless we annexed the territory. I have never considered that a legitimate argument in favour of annexation of a barbarous country. It is very true that if we defeated the Zulus to-morrow, as I trust that we shall shortly in a very significant manner (cheers), in a few years another war may break out between ourselves and them. But similar results might occur in Europe if we went to war with one of our neighbours, as we unfortunately have done on previous occasions; and even if we defeated our neighbours, when their resources revived, when their population increased, and when they had improved their arms of precision, it would be very likely that they might seize a favourable opportunity to go to war with us again. But is that an argument why we should not hold our hand until we have completely crushed our adversary and is that any reason why we should pursue a policy of extermination with regard to a barbarous nation with whom we happen to be at war? That is a policy which, I hope, will never be sanctioned by this House. (Cheers.) It is of course, possible that we may again be involved in war with the Zulus, but it is an equal chance that in the development of circumstances in that part of the world the Zulu people may have to invoke the aid and the alliance of England against some other people, and that the policy, dictated by feelings and influences which have regulated our conduct with regard to European States may be successfully pursued with regard to less civilized nations in a different part of the world. This is the policy of Her Majesty's Government, and therefore they cannot be in favour of a policy of annexation, because it is directly opposed to it."

Brave words these, and just too. We only hope that his Lordship will be consistent. But who can expect him to be consistent? The Zulus are a barbarous people, but that was no reason, Lord Beaconsfield argued, why they should be treated on principles different from those applicable to the civilized nations of Europe. So far his Lordship is clear. Read what his Lordship said on the Affghan Question at Lord Mayor's Dinner in November last. His Lordship first remarked: "Your Lordship is well aware of the present state of affairs on the North-Western frontier of India. In the firs place, my Lord Mayor, Her Majesty's Government are by no means apprehensive of any invasion of India by our North-Western frontier. The base of operations of any possible foe. is so remote, the communications are so difficult, the aspect of the country is so forbidding, that we do not believe under these circumstances any invasion of our North-Western frontier is practicable." It was thus fully admitted by the Premier that there was no fear of foreign invasion of India. "But," continued Lord Beaconsfield, "our North-Western frontier is a haphazard and not a scientific frontier. It is in the power of any foe so to embarrass and disturb our dominion, that we should be obliged to maintain the presence of a great military force in that quarter, entailing on the country a proportionate expenditure. These are unquestionably great evils, and former Viceroys have had their attention called with anxiety to the state of frontier." Now, what is a "scientific frontier?" Lord Beaconsfield did not explain it. He concealed his meaning in a cloud of words. But the two statements he made are not consistent with each other. If he admits, as he did admit, that with our present North-Western frontier the base of operations is so remote, the communications are so difficult, the aspect of the country is so forbidding, that under the circumstances any invasion of our North-Western frontier is not practicable,—if that is really the case, how could he in the same breath say that it is in the power of any foe to embarrass and disturb the Indian possessions of England. But let that pass. We come to the kernel of the nut in the following remarks:

"Recently, however, some peculiar circumstances have occurred in that part of the world which have convinced Her Majesty's Government that the time has arrived when we must terminate all this inconvenience and prevent all this possible injury. With this view we have made arrangements by which, when completed, in all probability at no distant day, all anxiety respecting the North-Western frontier of India will be removed. (Cheers.) We shall live, I hope, on good terms with our immediate neighbours and not on bad terms perhaps with some neighbours that are more remote. (Cheers.) I do not wish, my Lord Mayor, in making these remarks that you should understand that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that an invasion of India is impossible or impracticable. On the contrary, if Asia Minor and the valley of the Euphrates were in the possesion of a very weak or very powerful State, it would be by no means impossible for an adequate army to march through the passes of Asia Minor and through Persia and absolutely menace the dominions of the Queen; but Her Majesty's Government have contemplated such a result, and we have provided means to prevent its occurrence by our Convention with Turkey and our occupation of the isle of Cyprus. (Cheers."

Now, what does this rectification of our North Western Frontier mean? Does it not mean—annexation of Affghan territory? And do not the same arguments that have been urged against the annexation of Zululand apply to the annexation of any portion of Affghansthan? His Lordship said that the argument that peace with a barbarous nation cannot be stable is not sound. "I have never considered that a legitimate argument in favor of the annexation of a barbarous country." If it is not a legitimate argument in favour of annexing Zululand, is it a legitimate argument in favour of annexing Affghansthan? His Lordship remarked that it might be true that if we defeat the Zulus to-morrow they might give us trouble again, but similar results might occur in Europe, and would that be a reason for a war of extermination or for a relentless

Policy? His Lordship was perfectly right, but what we cannot understand is the flagrant inconsistency in setting up such equitable and admirable principles in one case, and upsetting them in a most bare-faced manner in another case. Now what is the distinction in the issues between England and Zululand on the one hand and England and Affghanstan on the other? The Affghans were as attached to the English as the Zulus. The Ameer Shere Ali was as friendly to the British Government as Cetewayo, but the former like the latter turned against it because the insincerity of that Government alienated the hearts of both. The Zulus are fierce and warlike like the Affghans, but they have done something which the Affghans have not been able to achieve yet—they have inflicted a signal defeat upon British arms. Things that are equal to the same things are equal to one another. As the situation of the Zulus and the Affghans is almost parallel, may we ask why the policy towards the two should be different? If, as Lord Beaconsfield says, "the policy dictated by feelings and influences, which have regulated our conduct with regard to European States may be successfully pursued with regard to less civilized nations in a different part of the world," Why should Affghansthan be treated on a different principle? Can Lord Beaconsfield say that he would have treated any civilized European State in the same way as his representative in India has treated Affghansthan? When we contrast the principles which have been evoked in discussing the Zulu and Affghan questions respectively are we wrong in exclaiming—Inconsistency, thy name is Beaconsfield!

ENGLISH OPINION ON THE INDIAN BUDGET.

THE British Indian Association have the satisfaction of witnessing a triumph of their ideas regarding Indian finance in England. The leading organs of public opinion in England have strongly pronounced themselves against Sir John Strachey's Budget. We quoted the *Times* last week. This is what the *Saturday Review* says on the remission of the cotton duties:

> Although, however, there is to be no new taxation, we are told one important fact, and that is, that not a rupee of the new taxation raised last year to form an insurance fund against famine is to be used for the purpose of such a fund. The new taxation is simply thrown into a lump with the old. The natives were told that they must pay new taxes for the wise and statesmanlike purpose of having a reserve in hand when the periodical famines of the country occur. They pay the new taxes and do not get this fund. There is no more an insurance against famine than there would have been if the fund had never been proposed.
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> The state of things, therefore, in which the cotton duties have been remitted is not at all the state of things contemplated by Lord Salisbury when he first, in accordance with the wishes of the House of Commons, promised that their remission should be granted. Far from the finances being in a more flourishing state than when he said this remission must be postponed until an improvement in them would make it possible to reduce the revenue, new taxes raised for a special purpose have been applied to general purposes; and it is acknowledged that still further taxes must be invented, unless it should so happen that some clever person in the India Office should be able to hit on some magical way of altering the present proportional values of gold and silver The Indian Government appears to see this, and to take a new ground. It no longer says that protective duties must be abandoned when it can afford to abandon them, but boldly urges that all protective duties are so inherently bad that they must be abolished at any cost. The urgency of immediate abolition is declared to be made evident by the fact that Protection has produced its usual consequences. There has been a great decrease in the importation of English coarse goods, and at the same time the production of coarse goods by the Indian mills has largely increased. Lord Cranbrook had not learnt his lesson quite properly when a few weeks ago he assured the Lancashire millowners that the true reason why English goods were not brought in India was that the natives owing to the recent famines, were too poor to buy any goods, whether imported or home made. The Lancashire market, however, seems to think even now that Lord Cranbrook may have been right; and, although it has got abolition of protective duties in India, for which it has long been clamouring, refuses to respond by any increase of activity. As the summary also informs us that the native mills now not only make goods for home consumption, but export them, they must under some circumstances be able to stand competition with the English manufacturer. The falling off in the import of English cotton goods may therefore be due not to the duties so much as to the fact that these goods are not wanted. Still the duties are, no doubt, to some extent, protective; and it may readily be conceded that all protective duties are in theory indefensible. When they are remitted in consequence of a reduction of expenditure, or from the growth of the revenue derived from unobjectionable sources, their remission is in every way laudable. It is a most proper aim for English statesmen who preach Free-trade to the world to do away with all protective duties in a country like India which they control. But it must always be kept in mind what is the objection to protective duties. It is that they injure the consumer. But the consumer loses if he is more injured by the taxes he has to pay to replace the yield of protective duties, and it is possible that he should be so injured. The salt-tax is a worse tax than a tax on calico; and the taxation of India has now been so arranged that a very large section of the country will have to pay more for its salt, while it will, it may be hoped, pay less for its calico.
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> The position of Lord Lytton is worse under the circumstances under which he has sanctioned the remission of the cotton duties. In the first place the money taken from the people of India for the constitution of a Famine Insurance Fund has been misappropriated. In the second place the Government has been obliged to tide over the difficulty in the present year by borrowing money. In the third place the present policy of Government renders increase of taxation inevitable next year. Could any thing be more unstatesmanlike, if not something else, than the deliberate sacrifice of revenue in the present condition of Indian finance for the sake of conciliating a powerful party at home? The *Times* has plainly hinted at this, and, though the British Indian Association did not venture to go to that length, Lord Lytton inferred such insinuations from them, and so administered them a severe wigging. Now, who has gained in the end?

The London *Economist* is much more strong than the *Saturday Review*. It remarks:

> The most remarkable features perhaps in the Budget, from a financial point of view, is the announcement that in the face of increasing charges, or increasing debt, the import duty on all cotton goods made of yarns of 30's and under, is to be immediately abolished. This will involve an ultimate loss to the revenue of 200,000 £. Perhaps with a debt piling up by millions, such a small thing as a couple of hundreds of thousands seem hardly worth taken into consideration; but from a fiscal point of view, the measure is *absolutely indefensible*. If the Government felt that some remission of taxation was necessary, this should have been sought in *the export duties*, such as those on rice, not on the import duty on cotton goods. It *cannot* be argued *for a moment* that the removal of the duty on cotton goods will in the slightest degree improve the economic condition of the mass of the Indian people but a removal of the duty on rice might have had a distinct influence in *promoting cultivation* and hence in assisting to ward off famine. The condition of the cultivator would also be *benefited* through the stimulus given to his products. The influence of the removal of export duty on wheat has been strongly marked.—
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> . . . The sole motive for the abolition of the (cotton import) duty would appear to be the desire of propitiating an influential class in England about the *worst reason* which can be alleged for such a step. An increase of exports from India is a far safer method of rectifying exchanges than any hazardous *tampering* with the standard of value.
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> Meanwhile, as a set off, England is to lend India two millions without interest. This is practically a *guarantee* for the amount. The assistance, if the interest only is to be considered, is too trifling to be any service to India; while the principle is a most dangerous one. The best course would have been the straight course to have *admitted at once the liability* of England for the sum, which represents the charge of the Afghan War for the year. To have done this would have restored the equilibrium to Indian finance and what is more would have prevented the scandal which the non performance of a promise must always be however weighty the reasons against keeping it may appear.

It will be thus seen that the great economic authority in the London Press, John Wilson's paper, is against both the measures of Government we mean the remission of the cotton duties and the charging the Indian revenue with the cost of the Affghan war. Thoughtful Englishmen are also of the same opinion. Thus Mr. Elliot writes to the *Times*:

> It is surely not too late to rescind the order for the reduction of the Indian cotton duties; their remission never was promised until the finances could afford the sacrifice. What pretence is there for saying that the finances can dispense with a shilling of income? Some have urged that this reduction will remove a source of irritation that exists between the two countries, and that, therefore, it is to the interest of both that these duties should be removed. But this view will not bear a moment's examination. The best interest of England is that the people of India should be contented with our rule; the best interest of India that, while its debts are being added to, no source of income should be thrown away. How have the interests of England been consulted when we find that, in the settlement of this question, we have created an irritation which has arrayed against us the entire Indian Press?
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> How have the interests of India been consulted when in her direst financial strait a source of revenue has been deliberately sacrificed! No worse time could have been selected for such a stock of policy, and in the eyes of the people of India it will not appear better, because it has been made on the eve of a general election. Is it well to furnish them with the means of drawing inferences unfavorable to the wisdom of our rule, and the uprightness of our actions?

Mr. Elliot is quite right. The financial policy of the Government of India is not only alienating the sympathies of the people but irritating their feelings, and still the Ministers gravely tell the Imperial Parliament that never before were the Queen's subjects in India more contented than now, that Lord Lytton with Sir John Strachey at his elbow has converted India into an Arcadia. When will this delusion be dispelled? India is certainly loyal, but its discontent is greater, because its loyalty is so little appreciated by its masters.

It appears that not only journalists and public men are opposed to Sir John Strachey's budget, but also business and commercial men of England. Thus the London correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* writes on the subject:

> With respect to the broad subject of Indian finance, I am bound to report that there now exists, among leading business men and authorities on monetary problems, a much stronger conviction of its serious importance, and of the need of dealing with it thoroughly and comprehensively, than was ever witnessed before. I might mention the name of one man, member of the first mercantile and capitalist firm in the world, who spoke to me most gravely about it one day this week. He declares it to be the question of the hour; and that, if handled properly, the public will be sure to take an interest in it. His own ideas on the subject I will mention as affording a curious illustration of the view which a shrewd business man of large intelligence, and long accustomed to the finances of almost every other country, takes under the influences of first and fresh impressions. Probably, his suggestion will appear very crude to people on your side; but I am quite sure that, if he advocates them publicly, they will win many adherents here, simply on his authority. First of all, he would have England guarantee the entire Indian debt, which would save, at least, three millions sterling a year Next, he would repeal Cardwell's Short Service Act, which, he believes, would save two or three millions more. Further, the military expenditure should be cut down; and lastly, the expenditure on public works But, after all this has been done, he would, in some way, bind the Indian Government so as to prevent it indulging in its favorite luxury of little wars. He believes that a series of changes, of which these are the principal, would be required to make an end for good of all the chronic financial crises in India and that no partial tinkering will have much effect.

But as fates would have it even Manchester is not satisfied with the concession. The *Times of India's* London correspondent has the following on the subject:

> Mr. Slagg, the chosen second Liberal candidate for Manchester, in opening his electioneering campaign, seems to have adopted the resolution of giving special prominence to Indian affairs. Speaking the other day he gave expression to the usual Liberal confession of faith with regard to the Afghan war to the effect that it was "at complete variance with the dictates of conscience, Christianity, and morality," and added that the expedition was not at all likely to attain the ends sought *viz*, a solid peace and a scientific frontier. Mr. Slagg strongly complains that the Government have gone to war in a state almost of bankruptcy. With the greatest possible care with the wisest and most cautious legislation it would be difficult indeed to make the ends of Indian finance meet at any time but to what a fearful state have the Government now brought it? In three years past they had a total deficit of 16½ millions and their new loan would make the increase of the public debt £20,000,000. It seemed comical to Mr. Slagg that in the face of the reckless extravagance practised by the Indian Government the "small concessions" given to Lancashire industry the other day should be called a sacrifice of India to Manchester. The smallest reform in the enormous military expenditure of India would enable the Government to wipe off very speedily the tax on cotton goods. Mr. Slagg declares that we have overtaxed and overburdened and pauperised the Natives of India and we are taking the very best means of procuring the future demolition of our power in India. If the present Imperial Government were so patriotic and so magnificent in their notions of empire and ascendancy Mr. Slagg suggests that they can do no less than make the Indian deficits a charge upon the British tax-payer.

Alas! for the financial genius of India! His best calculations seem to have been thrown to the winds. He tried to please Manchester, but he has failed. He tried to please the English public, but he has failed. He tried to please the European public in India, but he has failed. We are not, however, sorry for him. Those who have watched his public career know him to be a charlatan, and the fate which has overtaken him has been well deserved by him. But we do feel for the simple-minded nobleman, who is at the head of the Government. He has loved his Finance Minister too well but not wisely. He has gone against the warnings of the majority of his Council, and what is the result? His policy is condemned throughout India and England. The Parliamentary majority of Lord Beaconsfield may shield him for the present, but what will shield him from the righteous verdict of posterity?

THE BOMBAY IRRIGATION BILL.

BEFORE the Bombay Irrigation Bill passes into law we consider it our duty to lift our voice against it, though going forth from such a long distance it may have little effect upon the high authorities of the Western Presidency. It is a measure based on a vicious and inequitable principle, and cannot therefore claim the support of any right-thinking man. As Col. Merriman (he might have been merry within himself when he uttered these words, but those whom his measure would touch could not be merry)

said, "whether the ryots take the water or not, it is obvious that if the country is to be properly irrigated, and the works are to be financially successful, some measures for a more speedy utilization of the water must be adopted." Again: "The interest charges while the works are under construction will of course have to be met, and doubtless will be met, by a general scheme for mutual insurance, or protection against the evil effects of drought among the various provinces, but as soon as the means of irrigation have been actually provided, these charges should certainly then be placed on the locality benefited, and until the ordinary income expands sufficiently to cover interest and working expenses, it is proposed to meet the deficiency by levying a small water or insurance rate." The *Times of India* seems, however, to think that these words are apocryphal. The language of Col. Merriman, our contemporary says, implies, that if the proceeds from the direct sales of water are insufficient to pay expenses, resort must be had to a more or less limited, but compulsory subscription to supplement them until both ends meet. Quite so, but the writer says, "turning to the Bill, it is seen to give no such powers. In the statement of objects and reasons, and in section 46 of the original draft, there is a clause which declares the intention of Government to levy a certain insurance rate, if after a fair trial the canals continue unremunerative. But not a word from one end of the Bill to the other gives the Government the power to make good locally the deficiency between receipts and expenditure." We have not seen the bill ourselves, but we have formed our opinion of it from the criticisms, which have appeared upon it. The *Indu Prokash* quotes the section chapter and verse. Section 48, we are told, provides that "if at the close of any financial year it shall appear to the Governor in Council that the gross revenue from water supplied from any canal, or from the completed portion of any canal, during the said year has not amounted to five per centum of the total capital expended in the construction of such canal, or of the completed portion thereof, he may direct the levy in the year then next ensuing of a rate not exceeding eight annas per acre on all cultivated land, which is under command of such canal, but is not irrigated." It is clear from this that the insurance rate will be levied under the law. Now, let us consider the prospects of the irrigation works in Bombay. The figures, which we are about to quote, are furnished by the *Times of India* from official reports. The capital outlay already incurred from the loan funds in the execution of irrigation works in the Bombay Presidency is up to date Rs. 1,32,00,000; and during the next seven years a sum of Rs. 2,00,00,000 will be laid out; making Rs. 3,32,00,000 in all. To this amount of direct charges something must be added for indirect charges. When land is taken up for canals, the revenue it pays to Government is lost. A canal company (the Irrigation Department in this instance) has to pay the present value of that loss, which may be capitalized in this case at Rs. 18,00,000. So that the total of the capital account will at the end of seven years be 3½ crores of rupees. Interest during construction is designedly omitted. To turn to the revenue account, the annual working expenses cannot be less than Rs. 7,00,000. Add to this interest on 3½ crores at 4½ per cent., amounting to a further charge of Rs. 15,75,000, and the total annual charge to the revenue account will, if borrowed capital be employed, be Rs. 22,75,000. Colonel Merriman promises a protected area of 1,231,834 acres, from which to raise this revenue. How much of this area may be expected to pay voluntary water-rate is deducible from figures which occur at an earlier period of the Secretary's speech. In 1877-78, a year of high prices and long delayed rainfall, out of an area under command of 244,137 acres, the area paying water-rate was 25,387 acres, or about one-tenth. The writer, from whom we obtain the above figures, adds: "Under the operation of those sections of the Irrigation Bill which will bring the cultivators who dig wells within percolation distance of the canals upon the full water-rate list, and as the benefits of irrigation with returning prosperity become more generally understood, the proportion of irrigators to non-irrigators may rise to one-eighth or even one-sixth. One sixth of 1,231,834 acres is about 200,000 acres, which would doubtless yield some eight lakhs of rupees in direct water rate. This would leave a balance of Rs. 14,75,000 to be raised by the insurance rate—a task to which 1,000,000 acres, assessed at even the maximum rate of 8 annas per acre, are manifestly inadequate. There would be an annual deficiency of ten lakhs of rupees, or nearly half the total charges." Such are the prospects of irrigation works in Bombay. A compulsory rate would necessarily be levied, and such compulsion or coercion could not fail to be gross oppression. The compulsory water-rate was vetoed by the Duke of Argyll when Secretary of State for India in connection with the North India Irrigation and Drainage Bill, of which General Strachey was the author, and although it was resuscitated in the Bengal Irrigation Bill of 1877, that Bill as the reader is well aware has been shelved. We are surprised that in the face of these facts the Government of Bombay has been persevering in this direction.

The Puna Survajanic Sabha in their memorial point out that this Bill involves a breach of faith. We are told that in the case of eight canals and tanks in the Bombay Presidency it was found out that the cultivators of the lands adjacent to them derived indirect benefits from those works—the lands had their value enhanced by means of the canal water percolating to them. The question arose whether such cultivators could be taxed for the special benefit so derived and it was decided that they could not be taxed as long as the current period of settlement was unexpired and that the assessment in respect of those lands could be enhanced in respect of the benefits derived indirectly from the Canals and tanks only at the revision of the settlement after that period. But more than that. The State is the landlord in Bombay. Whatever the gain from increased cultivation in consequence of irrigation, it will be shared by the landlord and the tenant. If the landlord is a private individual he lays out the capital and is content with increased rent. He gets no extra charge for water. But in this case the Bombay Government will first take the voluntary rate, then the compulsory insurance rate, and thirdly increased revenue. As landlord it will, however, incur no cost or risk. The water-rate will cover the cost of the works, and the increased revenue will go out of the legitimate earnings of the cultivator. Now, we ask, is this fair and equitable? The Government of India taunted the Bengal zemindars for not bearing their share of the burden for the improvement of the land. Now, in Bombay the State is the landlord! Why should it not lay out the necessary capital from the imperial funds for irrigation, and then recoup itself by enhancing the revenue from increased cultivation?

There is another provision in the Bill, against which we cannot too loudly protest, we mean the provision legalizing forced labor. Could anything be more degrading or demoralizing than the virtual legalization of slavery at the latter end of the nineteenth century under the auspices of British rule in India. *Oh! tempora! Oh! mores!*

SIR ARTHUR GORDON.

WE feel particularly interested in the fortunes of Sir Arthur Gordon, late Governor of the Mauritius, and the present Governor of the Fiji Islands. He took a noble part in imancipating the serfs of Mauritius. He was abused, vilified, threatened, and what not, but he would not swerve an inch from the path of duty and rectitude. He has since undertaken the task of civilizing the Fiji islander, and as in Mauritius so in Fiji he has proved a strong and straightforward friend of the native. He had come home for a short respite, and on the eve of his departure for the scene of his labours he was entertained at public dinner by the Royal Colonial Institute with Earl Granville in the chair. Mr. Gladstone, who was unable to attend, thus wrote to the Secretary:

I was anxious in availing myself of the courtesy of the institute to testify my attachment to Sir Arthur Gordon, whom I have known from his early boyhood upwards, and my confidence in his administration. When he was chosen for the Government of the Islands, I considered the selection to be one which, with reference to the novel and peculiar nature of the task, it would be difficult to match and impossible to excel; all that has since passed, so far as my imperfect knowledge goes, has tended to show how much honour is due to those who advised the appointment, as well as to the person who received it.

Sir M. H. Beach, the Colonial Secretary, thus spoke on the occasion:

I may venture to say that in the short period of our official connection, I think it would be difficult—perhaps impossible—to find any one of greater ability and aptitude for the task he has performed than the Governor of Fiji (cheers). He is making a great experiment, which, if successful, will redound highly to the honour and credit of this country with respect to its dealings with native races (cheers). In that experiment he may think it necessary to take measures perhaps more or less at variance with certain doctrines and ideas held amongst us at home as applicable to our own circumstances; but I think it should be remembered that in these matters we are dealing with a peculiar stage of civilisation, that we are adapting our measures to our ends, and that we must not attempt—and if we do attempt we shall fail—to measure people in the conditions of society found in the Fiji Islands by procrastean rules applicable to the Anglo-Saxon race (cheers). I am confident in this, that Sir A. Gordon will stamp his name on the history of Fiji; and that, although his work is done at the other side of the globe, he will be remembered as one of those who have rendered high service to his country (cheers).

What could be a greater honor to a public servant than this united tribute of praise from the leaders of both parties. Indeed, the services which Sir Arthur Gordon has rendered belong to no party but to humanity. How Sir Arthur has achieved success may be seen from the following statement made by himself:

At the end of the year 1875 he found himself with a revenue of 16,000*l.*, and an expenditure of over 70,000*l.*; and that since then under the new system of taxation, the revenue has swelled rapidly from 16,000*l.* in 1875, to 38,000*l.* in 1876; 47,000*l.* in 1877, and over 60,000*l.* in 1878—(cheers)—while the expenditure had been reduced to a level with the income. Having entered at length into the history and working of the old systems of taxation, he said the problem which he had presented to him was, whether he should continue the labour tax of 1874, or should re-enact and attempt to enforce the direct tax in money of the old Fijian Government, or should endeavour to provide some substitute for the existing system, which should bring larger returns, and yet be neither oppressive nor opposed to the traditionary habits and feelings of the people; and after much consideration he came to the following conclusions:—1. That the taxation of natives, to be effective, must be of the nature of a land tax, levied on the district or village, rather than on individuals. 2. That while such a tax could not at present be obtained in money without the exercise of gross oppression, a tax of produce could be easily raised, with the best possible pecuniary results, and with the yet greater advantage of stimulating native industry, and largely increasing the native trade in the Group. 3. That it would be undesirable that the Government should take part in any complicated trading operations or commercial dealings. To carry out these views the Native Taxes Ordnance of 1876 was passed by the unanimous vote of the Legislative Council of Fiji. This enactment had both a social and financial object. That it had been financially successful might easily be demonstrated, nor would it be more difficult to prove that it had equally succeeded as a social experiment. The receipts from the native taxes, which in 1875, under the old system of collection, amounted to but 3,499*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, reached in 1876 (during only a part of which year the new scheme was in operation) the sum of 9,342*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, in 1877 that of 15,149*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*, and in 1878 amounted to over 19,000*l.* The exact figures for this last year had not yet reached him. Sir Arthur dwelt at length on the social influence of the new law, and remarked that the machinery of taxation recognised the primitive community system on which all political and social institutions in Fiji were based, and that the species of taxation was familiar to the natives and thoroughly understood by them,—a fact which caused it to be more lightly felt than it would be if demanded directly from the individual by the Government. Fijians were by no means habitually indolent, as many careless observers supposed them to be; and under the new system the area of native cultivation was rapidly increasing, while another consequence of the adoption of the new law was that the people had a juster idea of the value of the produce they raised. Many of the traders encouraged the chiefs and people to become involved in debt to them, on account of the indirect advantages they were able to exact through the control thus exercised, and the results were most pernicious, both politically and socially. He could scarcely bring himself to treat seriously the accusation that the ordinance in question had legalised a system of slavery. The word "slavery" was often rhetorically employed with great laxity of meaning. The essential principle of the Fiji scheme was that the produce raised remained the property of individual or family of *him* who raised it: that out of it he paid his portion of the tax assessed on his province or town; and that he then disposed of the remainder exactly as he pleased, and with the power of obtaining a fair price for it. Such modes of payment were known in countries of far more advanced civilisation than Fiji, and were at the beginning of the century common throughout Europe. Rents were still paid in oatmeal and fowls in some places in Scotland, and the mere payment of a tax in money's worth, instead of cash, in no way resembled the Government proprietorship of the Java system. That the system was disliked by the European traders had also been asserted. This was true so far at least as some of the petty traders were concerned; for it had put a serious check on their opportunities of making illegitimate profit out of the ignorance and necessities of the natives. It might be said that the native disliked the system; but this, he was certain, was untrue.

Sir Arthur Gordon is, we think, working wisely. It will not do to introduce into a barbarous country, just in the process of reclamation, all the paraphernalia of western civilization. We hope to see Sir Arthur Gordon some day in India.

A DEMONSTRATION.

AFTER the angry rebuff which the Viceroy gave to the deputation of the British Indian Association regarding the cotton duties many persons asked us, what demonstration the Association proposed to make on the subject. We said that the Association should do nothing but leave the whole issue to the mightiest of all earthly powers, before which the bravest warriors and the most brilliant statesmen must submit, whether they make such submission openly or no, we meant the Tribunal of Public Opinion. In a constitutional country the Minister, who would have thus wantonly insulted the representatives of the people, would have lost his seat. But the Government of India is despotic, and no officer, high or low, is dependent upon popular opinion for the tenure of his office. But even here there is such an institution as the tribunal of public opinion. Lord Lytton has been arraigned before the bar of public opinion for his wanton assault upon the British Indian Association, and what is its verdict? The Association we observe, have collected the opinions of the Indian Press, both European and Native, on the subject, and what a splendid vindication does the collection of these opinions present. We have received a copy of this compilation, and observe that almost all the leading papers throughout India, European and Native, have condemned the reply of the Viceroy. We give the names of these papers below:

Anglo-Indian Papers.

BENGAL.	NORTHERN INDIA.	MADRAS.
Statesman.	*Pioneer.*	*Times.*
Englishman.	*Delhi Gazette.*	*Mail.*
Daily News.	—	*Standard.*
Anglo-Indian Guardian.	BOMBAY.	*Athenæum.*
	Times of India.	
	Bombay Review.	
	Beacon (Kurrachee.)	

Native Papers.

BENGAL.	NORTHERN INDIA.
Hindoo Patriot.	*Indian Tribune* (Allahabad.)
Indian Mirror.	*Benares Star.*
Bengalee	BOMBAY.
Amirta Bazar Putrica.	*Native Opinion.*
Shome Prokash.	*Indu Prokash.*
Shadharuni.	MADRAS.
Shahachar.	*Hindu.*
Dacca Prokash.	
Bharat Mihir.	
Bharat Hitoishini.	

It will be thus seen that almost all organs of independent and enlightened opinion in India have in one voice condemned the utterances of the Viceroy. In a previous issue we gave extracts from some of the papers on the subject; in the present issue we will make a few more extracts. Thus the *Anglo-Indian Guardian*, the organ of the Eurasian Community, says:

There is no cannon of general acceptation which prevents an Indian Viceroy who may fall into the error of protesting too much, from the fate of any body who may make a similar mistake. The gain to the public from the present passage of arms between the Viceroy and the Association if it has been slight from one point of view, has been considerable from another. In exposing the weakness of the Viceroy, it has suggested that the unavoidable conflict over the maladministration of the Indian finance might appropriately be transferred to England. A Viceroy so anxious to register the conclusion of his political party as to rush, not only into transparent inaccuracies of expression and irrelevant refinements, but also into an indecorous repudiation of charges not actually made by any body, as well as into unseemly threats, is obviously not an adversary on whom to expend serious fighting, except of course for the purpose of obtaining the step in the ordinary procedure which is needed to make good a basis for an appeal to England.

The *Madras Mail* writes:

Lord Lytton's speech will certainly prove the most unpopular address he has ever delivered. As a defence of the policy of governing India in the interests of Manchester, and of rendering the adjustment of Indian questions subservient to the electioneering necessities of the Ministry the speech is valueless. No indication of an argument is to be found between its opening and its concluding syllabus. The tone of the address, where it does not verge on the discourteous is querulous and peevish in the last degree. It was not to be expected that the Viceroy should disclose any divergence of view between himself and the Ministry of which he is the instrument; but neither was it to be expected that he should out-do the Secretary of State himself in the energy with which he repudiates approval of the principles on which the import duties are based. It is impolitic, to say the least, to re-affirm, as Lord Lytton does with such needless and inexcusable acerbity, a position which, if we are to judge of it by the statements of its defender, has nothing to support it but the obstinacy of the Government. His Excellency might have remembered that the community whose representatives he addressed has, whether rightly or wrongly, been profoundly moved by the proposal on which they have ventured to address him; and, instead of petulently scolding them, he might have been more profitably employed in endeavouring to allay their anxiety. The petted and pampered Baboos, as they writhed under so unexpected a blow, might well regret the temerity which led them to rush into the Vice-regal presence with a statement of their grievance. The whole address, with its damaging imputations of bad faith and selfishness, is just what might have been looked for from the *dilettante* statesman who so little "discerns the signs of the times" that he could afford, at his Harrow dinner to crack a joke over the scruples of people who "object to be taxed." "The petrific mace" of authority is the only argument suited to the people of India; and no reason for the proceedure against which they protest shall be vouchsafed "though reasons were as plentiful as blackberries." Rhetorically the speech is a failure, for its eloquence is the hysteric volubility of an angry scold; and politically, it can only be regarded as a confirmation of the opinion expressed by the deputation that the Government in this matter of the import duties, are hopelessly and consciously in the wrong.

The *Madras Times* says:

The utterances of the Viceroy are those of a Lancashire partizan rather than of a statesman who is also Viceroy of India. If the food of the people who were concerned, if human lives depended upon the repeal of these duties Lord Lytton could not have risen to a higher strain of eloquence or with finer frenzy have proclaimed, "Perish all these tokens of protection!" But instead of the relief of human suffering being the effect of the abolition, what His Excellency proposes to do will add to human suffering. The revenue raised from the cotton duties cannot be dispensed with. If the import duties go, other taxation must take their place. That taxation cannot be imposed without greater inconvenience being caused than is now occasioned. We wonder that His Excellency, with the broad and penetrating mind that he possesses, did not see the deadly weapon he was placing in the hand of the gentlemen he so soundly rated if any one of them had had the courage to press upon him the logical retort of his remarks. The speech may be welcomed in England, and may do the home Government some good, here it will convince no one. As a matter of principle, the duties ought perhaps to go: as a matter of policy and good-sense they ought to be retained.

The *Madras Standard*:

The natives of India in the absence of all other constitutional methods of making known their wishes and aspirations have accorded to them the privilege of petitioning and memorialising the Government. They have no representative institutions akin in character and constitution to the feeblest patterns of the English Parliament which the energy and love of freedom of other colonies and dependencies have established for themselves. They are a long way off from the possession of a representative government in the affairs of which they can take an effective part. They have no political power and they value the privilege of memorialising in questions closely connected with their well-being. That privilege has been naturally availed of to a large extent and there is hardly an association in the country, started in the public interests and for the furtherance of reputable objects, that has not approached the Government in this way. The British Indian Association is the oldest and best known of such bodies, and of which with no exaggerated praise the *Patriot* writes that it has always loyally co-operated with Government in the furtherance of public measures, spontaneously and generously consulted by Government, both imperial and local, in many matters of public importance its services in this respect being repeatedly acknowledged by Viceroys, Lieutenant-Governors, Members of Council and other hight functionaries. The language of rebuke and querulous contempt with which the memorial of the representatives of such a body was met by the Viceroy may have the effect of discouraging the free expression of opinion by means of memorials presented by native associations. Under the despotism now being introduced by Lord Lytton, says the *Calcutta Statesman*, their memorials must be carefully divested of every semblance of remonstrance against the policy of the Government. That is really the lesson conveyed to them in Lord Lytton's speech. They are to remember that any thing in the shape of remonstrance or argument against the declared policy of Government, is only permissible in "public discussion and criticism," which to them is denied. And when they venture to approach the august presence of Her Majesty's representative, they must abstain from every expression of opinion which might be disagreeable to his sensitive nature. They are not merely to address him in courteous words; they must neither criticise his policy nor hint that his judgement may be mistaken. They must not even express their belief in his integrity and sense of duty, lest such an expression should seem to imply that these qualities in a "sovereign's representative" might possibly be called in question.

The *Bombay Review* has the following:

The obvious rejoinder to His Excellency's denunciation of the British Indians in the matter of these import duties, is that they are only putting, in their own way, the same proposition as that which the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce has adopted. His Lordship will scarcely venture to reproach the European mercantile community of Calcutta with being a privileged class. For the rest His Excellency would have shown a far better appreciation of his position had he borne in mind that quite apart from the figment of "protection" that is involved in the argument, those who deprecate the flinging away of this twenty lakhs of revenue have a case based on practical financial considerations. That case is stated with so much force in the memorial that we are tempted to believe his Lordships can only have read the document just sufficiently to see how he could most readily give it the go-by. He did not take the trouble to confute it; but rudely thrusts it aside and takes his stand on the slavish doctrine, which Sir John Strachey has made current with Indian administrators of the present day under the magniloquent but mocking phrase of—"loyal and unhesitating obedience." As to the free-trade part of the question, Lord Lytton and his masters at home display the unseemly zeal of converts under compulsion. We have already explained that the Lancashire agitators on behalf of this pitiless assault on the Indian revenues, are merely the illegitimate and factitious successors of the great "Manchester school." In them, and in the Tory leaders whom they have goaded into this hypocritical mission on behalf of the shirtless Indian consumer, there is not a spark of the genuine free-trade spirit—that purely equitable sentiment of which John Bright has just given such a pithy and powerful exposition in his letter to Mr. Cyrus Field for the benefit of the suicidal American protectionists. To come to closer quarters; Lord Lytton and Sir John Strachey cannot pretend to be better free-traders than James Wilson and Samuel Laing. Great as was the uneasiness because of the condition of Indian finance when the former was deputed to set it right, and when he imposed import duties on cotton goods at twice or three times the rates now obtaining, and which the latter only moderated, the present condition of Indian finance is such as to cause far deeper anxiety to those who have eyes to see. Those who at present are in charge of India's financial fate, both here and home, are blinded by fatuous optimism and ignoble party exigencies. Rude will be the awakening; but the effects of that will fall very lightly on those whose princely pay and noble pensions drawn from the country they are thrusting towards financial perdition, will be securely garned if some large souled Curtius shall be found to sacrifice him in closing or bridging the gulf they are making wider and deeper month by month. Altogether, it is already evident and the applause elicited by the Viceroy's *cadaptandum* speech has died away, that—saying for the indications of class selfishness—the memorial has survived the onslaught and has the best of the rencontre.

The *Beacon* of Kurrachee says:

A tree is known by its fruit; Lord Lytton's rejoinder to the spirited address of the British Indian Association, an address pointing out in forcible terms the iniquitous character of some of the financial measures initiated of late by the Government of India, and bristling with irresistible arguments, serves as an index to his real character as a statesman; the outline we have given of the peculiar traits that so distinguish Lord Lytton will prepare the reader for the muddle-headedness displayed in a reply to the most salient points in an important address from about the most influential, and the wealthiest body of people in India. The British Indian Association, be it noted, represents largely the zemindars of Bengal, this fact, instead of having the effect of imparting all the greater weight to the address, had a directly contrary effect, and my Lord Lytton, in the plenitude of his wisdom, did not hesitate to remark that of all the people who bow to the sceptre of England in India, he least expected the zemindars to carp or cavil at the financial measures of the Government of that country; and why, forsooth, because the zemindars were under a debt of gratitude to that Government for the inestimable concession made to them a century ago in that ill-conceived measure of Lord Cornwallis—the Permanent Settlement! Could the force of folly and stupidity further go! Lord Lytton admits that the zemindars are an influential body as such their opinions and suggestions, common sense ought to have told him, were entitled to respect and to the most serious consideration. Instead of their representations commanding either, the appeal preferred by them was deemed worthy only of rebukes, and of being treated in the most supercilious and contemptuous spirit imaginable. Lord Lytton, in his prefatory remarks to the deputation, said that the sentiments of the Bengal zemindars must always be regarded with interest by the Government of India as those of a body whose social position is important and exceptional"; having said that, he turned round on the zemindars, notwithstanding the admitted importance and exceptional nature of their social position, and accused them of rank ingratitude for favours conferred. "Et tu Brute"? Was the exclamation of Cæsar when he was stabbed by one who owed so much to him; Lord Lytton would appear to have been inspired with something of the emotion that overtook the unfortunate Cæsar when he fell beneath the stabs of the ingrate Brutus. What possible connection, as appreciation of favours received can have with a public-spirited protest against taxational measures weighing with undue severity on the people of India, is more than we can pretend to see; as well may the zemindar have retorted by telling Lord Lytton that gratitude to the Ministry in office prevented him from viewing aright the responsibilities devolving on him, and induced him to endorse in a spirit of servility and contemptuous obsequiousness all the questionable proceedings of the Home Government in its relations with this mighty dependency; the *quid pro quo* would have been a happy one and certainly well deserved. Leaving aside all consideration of the utter irrelevancy of such a remark as that which fell from Lord Lytton to the subject matter of the address presented to him, one cannot fail to be struck by it in consequence of its undignified nature, conveying, as it must have conveyed to the deputation contemptible humiliating, at all events, notions of him who uttered it. The representative of her Majesty stooping so low as to fling dirt at the wealthiest and most influential body of British subjects in India, simply because they considered it imperative on them to denounce certain taxational measures out here, instead of meeting those denunciations in the only spirit in which they could have been met by a suzerain like a Viceroy of India, was a sight worthy of the gods, whom it could not fail to edify. What tends to impart an air of grotesque inconsistency to the reflection thus cast on the zemindars is the other remark made almost in the same breath by Lord Lytton, that it must be at all times a matter of interest to this Government to be made acquainted with the views and sentiments of a body which owns to the British Crown such a special and long standing debt of loyalty and gratitude. Here it is distinctly shewn that Lord Lytton considered the gratitude the zemindars owed to the British Government gave a peculiar interest to their opinions, and yet in spite of such a belief Lord Lytton taunts the zemindars on their ingratitude in condemning certain fiscal measures of the Government of India. This is verily blowing hot and cold in one and the same breath.

We will make a few more extracts from the leading native papers of Bombay and Madras. *Native Opinion* says:

What dire offence has the British Indian Association committed that the Heavens should be disturbed? What is their offence that the sire and ruler of two hundred millions of people, should deem meet to come down from his high pedestal, bandy words with a section of the Indian public and mock them to their face? What is their offence we ask, and finding no adequate reason, we are lost in wonderment as to how Lord Lytton should so far forget himself as to commit a most lamentable act of injudiciousness and impolicy. If he had any object in view, it is evident, that he has not gained it. Wide spread sympathy is felt for the British Indian Association, whilst the denouncement of his Lordship's reply is the loudest. Never had a Viceroy allowed himself to be drawn into such a scrape or shown such an inadequate appreciation of his own position, of the circumstances he is surrounded by or of the weakness of the cause, he has had to advocate. Lord Lytton cannot be unaware that whenever a deputation approaches they may possibly say with what the

Government may not agree. And yet His Lordship waxed warm, taught the British Indian Association a lesson, which ultimately recoiled on himself. This is lamentable in the extreme and we sincerely regret the incident.

Thus looked at from any point of view, the speech appears to us to be inconsiderate in the extreme. It is an evil wind that bears nobody good and the reply will do good to no one. It has deeply wounded the feelings of the one side and gained no corresponding advantage for the other. It has created a needless alarm among subject masses of a future developement of imperialism and high-handedness. It has wantonly insulted a respectable body of representatives of the people. It has lowered the Viceroy himself in the estimation of the people. It has fruitlessly and irritatingly revived a controversy, which is in high quarters deemed politically dangerous. It has shown a bigotry of opinion and assiduous cultivation of the duties of official responsibility to an extent, which had never been seen in India before.

The *Indu-Prokash* writes :

The country has always loyally submitted to the decision of its Government and the utmost opposition it has given to any unpopular measures, to which that Government has committed it has been the very mild process of memorialising. But what are we to say of a Viceroy who losing sight of this very momentous fact took, to snubbing and rebuke, simply because the victims of his wrath, who approached him with a modest appeal were helpless and could no more than trust to his caprice and generosity ? Is all this a return of the proved loyalty of the country ? If it was this which prompted Lord Lytton to throw off all the mask of courtesy and clothe unreasonable sentiment in unbecoming language, we say His Lordship has lowered himself in the eyes of the loyal public of India. They have always looked to their Governor General as the guardian of their interests and as they have confided in him, in their helplessness it was a sacred duty which he was bound to discharge solemnly, to adopt a lofty and reasonable tone in his reply. Even if the representation of the public were objectionable whether in its tone or in the matter of its demand there could be nothing to excuse the Viceroy from fulfilling this duty in a manner becoming his position. But even leaving this aside, was there anything really objectionable either in the tone or demand of the memorial of the British Indian Association of Calcutta ? In what is it that the Association really sinned ? We certainly fail to see—and fortunately the whole Press of India concurs in this view—anything of the style of the Memorial, which approaches strong language and to the 'tone" of which any person can take reasonable offence.

The *Hindu* of Madras remarks :

In replying as he did, to the most influential political association in this country, the Viceroy has undone all the good effects which his equable temper, sweet words, and urbane manners could possibly have had upon those native gentlemen who have had the good fortune of coming in contact with him. The deputation consisted of some of the most eminent and respectable gentlemen of Calcutta, two of them being Maharajahs, one a late, the other a present, member of His Excellency's Legislative Council, three Rajahs, three Nawabs all of them equally distinguished for their loyalty and public spirit. That such native gentlemen should have been treated by Her Majesty's representative like so many naughty school boys is indeed deplorable and a fact marking the nature of the times. Without exaggeration, it might be truly observed of the British Indian Association that it is the first political body in India, and it has always loyally co-operated with Government in furtherance of public measures, is spontaneously and generously consulted by Government both imperial and local, in matters of public importance, its services in this respect have been repeatedly acknowledged by Viceroys, Lieutenant-Governors, Members of Council and other high functionaries, and it has supplied some of the most useful and active members to both the Viceregal and local Councils. The importance of such influential associations cannot be overrated in a country having no representative institutions, governed avowedly on despotic principles, with a public opinion of a very feeble voice and a press just struggling into existence, hardly recognised, and much less respected by the Government. We cannot but look with alarm on the increasing jealousy with which many of the Anglo Indians, the Viceroy himself not excluded, regard the growth of public opinion in this country. If a protest, or even a dissentient voice is not tolerated by the head of the administration, what guarantee is there that the subordinate officers, young and spirited civilians will not imitate the Viceroy on a smaller scale, but with a more tangible mischief ? Is it then all a veritable sham, a huge hypocrisy that our rulers have been talking of India enjoying the western privileges, the blessings of the English constitution ? Is it then a mere cant meaningless and mischievous, that India under the benign rule of the English enjoys the inestimable boon of freedom of thought and opinion, a boon which her ancestors never dreamed of ? The Eighth of March will be a memorable day with the British Indian Association. The association has justified its existence by a series of achievements on behalf of the public which would not have taken place at all but for the association. But in this last attempt, it was doomed to be treated with contempt and severity. The Viceroy's reply is surely calculated to humble its position and to lower it in the estimation of the Europeans. But the association, we are certain, carries with it the sympathy of the whole nation for whose good it has risked its dignity and has suffered insult. We hope the association will not suffer itself to be trodden down by mere browbeating as a contemporary calls it, but prove by its further steps that it deserves a better and a more noble treatment from the Viceroy.

We close here today. We are of opinion that this collection of the opinions of the Indian press, which as a contemporary justly remarks, will possess an historial interest, is a much more effective demonstration, which the British Indian Association could have made, than any other form of remonstrance. Let us now see what view the tribunal of public opinion in England, the congress of the English people, will pass on the important issue between the autocrat of India and her people.

SIR THOMAS SECCOMBE ON INDIAN EXPENDITURE.

SIR THOMAS SECCOMBE was formerly the Chief of the Financial Department of the India Office, and is now a permanent Assistant Secretary of that Office. He was lately examined by the Commons' Select Committee on Indian Public Works and he made some important statements. In reply to a question from the Chairman, he said that during the last six years the Government of India had disbursed large sums on account of famine expenditure. These amounts were as follows :—

1873-74	...	£3,864,673
1874-75	...	£2,237,860
1875-76	...	£508,554
1876-77	...	£2,145,431
1877-78	...	£5,231,306
1878-79	...	...£500,000
Total	...	£14,487,827

Now, Sir John Strachey's statement gave the total of the famine expenditure from 1874 to the present time at £16,000,000. Which statement are we to believe ? But let that pass. The Chairman asked—now during the past four years the India Office has laid down the principle that no money for public works should be borrowed in England ; but as a matter of fact when famine has broken out, such a reduction has taken place in the cash balances in India as to render it very difficult for Indian Government to meet the demands of the Secretary of State ? The witness answered in the affirmative and added—" and there is but one way, I think, in which such orders could be carried into effect, and that is that when a large expenditure has had to be made, and when a loan has been raised in England to meet expenditure, famine or otherwise in India, the first opportunity should be taken advantage of to return to the Home Treasury that sum which we only intended to lend. Unless that be done when an emergency arises it calls for a larger expenditure there, and unless they kept an unnecessarily large balance they would not be prepared even to send us the sum we might lend." Lord George Hamilton, the Chairman, then sought to save the character of the Secretary of State with regard to Indian loans raised in England. His Lordship asked—

And the general tendency therefore of famine expenditure, or in other exceptional work in India is to bring pressure upon the Secretary of State to borrow in England ?

Witness : Yes.

The Chairman : And when the Secretary of State has borrowed in England, it has been exceedingly difficult, considering the large annual remittances which have to be made for the Indian Government, to send any sum over and above those remittances in order to meet the loans raised in England ?

Witness : Quite so. It is at times impracticable to do it.

Sir George Campbell wrung out these confessions from the witness :

Sir G. Campbell : Am I to understand that the Finance Department exercises no check over this expenditure ?

Witness : Not the Financial Department of the India Office. The Public Works Department has all the administrative functions. When the despatches sanctioning an undertaking have passed that department, these are referred to the Financial Department, but the latter department has no control. The despatch laying down the rule that money was not to be borrowed in England, was issued from the Financial Department, that being the laying down of a principle.

Sir G. Campbell : Is there not some necessity for the Financial Department to have some power of seeing that its principle is observed ?

Witness : Yes. When we get these accounts we can see whether this order has been observed, but until then it is not practicable to do so. Up to the present time no check has been exercised by the Financial Department.

Sir G. Campbell : Then, as regards the works executed each year, and the expenditure of four or five millions each year, the Financial Department had no knowledge as to whether the works on which the money has been expended are within the compass of the department ?

Witness : No.

What a confession ! The only department, which is responsible for the due administration of the finances, knows nothing about expenditure of money in the Public Works Department. Sir George Campbell tackles the witness on a very important point. Seeing that the Famine Insurance Fund has turned out a myth Sir George asked :

Sir G. Campbell : Do you think it would not be practicable to establish trustees similar to the National Debt Commissioners in this country, into whose hands the proposed famine fund could be paid year by year, and who should lend to the Indian Government as the Debt Commissioners do the Home Government ?

Witness : It is no doubt possible to establish such a body ; whether they would be officers of the Government, as the National Debt Commissioners are, or whether they would be other than Government officials I do not know ; but I think in either case it would be exceedingly unwise to give such powers to a body so constituted. They would exercise a power which would be exceedingly inconvenient to the Government of India. The Government might be wanting money when the Commissioners could very well spare it, and yet the Commissioners might not let them have it. It would be looking up your cash balances in a way in which I see no advantage.

Sir G. Campbell : Are you aware that the National Debt Commissioners do exercise such powers here, and yet the Chancery of the Exchequer is constantly borrowing ; that they frequently afford great help to the Chancery of the exchequer in getting over difficulties ?

Witness : I am quite aware that is the case in this country ; but the whole constitution of this country is so widely different from that of India, that I am unable to see how any advantage could be obtained by this plan.

Yes, the constitution of India is very different so much so that deliberate misappropriation of money does not sting the conscience of any body ; We would draw the particular attention of the reader to the following :

Mr. Onslow : Sir Thomas, if I am right, you, in answer to an hon. member, employed these words in regard to the large and increasing expenditure on public works, "The Government of India is more extravagant than the Home Government."(Laughter.)

Sir T. Seccombe : If I used such words, it was not in a general but in a limited sense. I wished to say that the Indian Government does not restrict itself in regard to expenditure with the care the HomeGoverment desired to see.

To Mr. Fawcett the witness replied that it was his individual opinion that the Public Works Establishment could and should be reduced ; but whether it could be effected by the India Office singly was doubtful. The India Office, he would repeat, is continually at issue with the Government at Calcutta on the policy of reductions and retrenchments. The Viceroy is a very high officer and exercises supreme administrative power, and his Council rule upon the principle that "India should be governed in India."

In reply to further questions,

The witness said he maintained the opinion that military as well as other expenditure might be reduced in India. As much as £25,000,000 sterling has been borrowed in England on productive public works, and £11,000,000 in India, the Expenditure on works depends on the finances at command. There might be projects desirable to carry out yet necessary to delay proceeding with through want of funds, or from indisposition to resort to loans, or worse, taxation. The borrowing powers permitted to the Indian Government had increased the debt of India and must increase it still more. If what has happened in the past should recur, the £2,000,000, set apart for public works expenditure would go a very little way in promoting public works. The £700,000 intended to be set aside to reduce the £27,000,000, of debt would also be affected by the recurrence of famines, or by the extraordinary expenditure on public works.

When competent Indian authorities are unanimous that much reductions may be effected in Military and Public Works expenditure, is it not a scandal—aye, worse than a scandal—a crime that nothing has been done to make the necessary retrenchments ? The more we look into the matter, the more we are convinced that unless Parliament insists upon the desired economy, nothing will be done.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor has addressed Babu Mahendranath Bose, Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge, the following letter of condolence on the death of Raja Degumber Mitter C. S. I. :

Belvedere 21st April.

My dear Sir,—I have just heard with very deep regret of the death of my old friend, your cousin

Raja Degumber Mitter. I was afraid from what I heard of his case that it was a very hopeless one. His death involves a great loss to his countrymen, whose best interests he uniformly advocated with independence and energy, and at the same time with an amount of moderation, reason, and tolerance which always ensured due consideration to his opinion.

Personally I lose in him a trusted and most efficient adviser, and I must ask you to accept for yourself and to express to his family my deep sympathy for them in the loss which they have sustained.

I am, yours faithfully,
Ashley Eden.

To Babu Mahendranath Bose.

These kind and appreciative expressions from the head of our Government cannot but be highly gratifying to our countrymen.

THE FOLLOWING resolution was passed at a meeting of the Native Committee of the District Charitable Society held on Saturday the 26th April 1879, with regard to the death of the Hon'ble Raja Degumber Mitter C. S. I.: "The Native Committee of the District Charitable Society beg to express their deep regret at the death of Raja Degumber Mitter C. S. I. who was connected with the Committee as one of its Honorary Secretaries from the year 1859 and the Committee feel greatly indebted to him for the valuable services rendered by him. He took a lively interest in the Society which is evidenced by his monthly grant of Rs. 25 for the relief of certain paupers. As a mark of the Committee's sincere sympathy with the Raja's family the Committee resolve that a copy of this resolution be sent to Babu Mohendronath Bose, Executor to the Estate of the Raja Degumber Mitter."

THE WRITER of the week in last Saturday Evening's *Englishman* pays the following tribute to the memory of the late Raja Degumber Mitter:

Native society and, for the matter of that, all Europeans who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, have sustained a severe loss this week in the death of Raja Degumber Mitter. He was about as unlike the general class of Bengalis as it is possible to imagine. Upright and stern in all business matters, never afraid to express his opinions before either Europeans or his own countrymen, and provided with plenty of good sense and arguments to maintain those opinions, at times the Bengalis hated whilst they respected him and no native gentleman of Calcutta has ever been held in higher esteem by Europeans. For though he disdained to cringe or flatter, and had a very direct way of expressing his opinion, every European felt that he was dealing with one of nature's gentlemen, in whom was no guile. Of his public and private charities it is not for me to speak, but it is no inconsiderable call on any one's pocket to maintain, as the late Raja did, eighty poor students of the University and schools in Calcutta. The British Indan Association will miss him more than any one else; for he was the backbone of all the business of the Association.

AS WE had previously announced His Honor the Lieutenant Governor left the capital for Darjeeling on Wednesday last. The leading officials and native gentlemen of the town were present at the Railway station to bid him good-bye.

MR. GRIMLEY, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, has rendered a service to the mercantile community and business men generally by the publication of his manual containing the Sea Customs Law of India and Tariff Act with notes and appendices. It is no small convenience to have at hand a handy collection of the Sea Customs Law, the Tariff Act with the latest alterations of the same, wharf rules, Custom House forms, shipping dues, and a variety of other information which a merchant, shipowner and ship agent have generally occasion for. In the publication under notice all these particulars are presented at one view. The typographical execution of the work does credit to the publishers Messrs. Thacker Spink and Co.,

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THE LICENSE TAX collections in Calcutta have become a growing scandal. What Mr. Metcalfe had sown Mr. Souttar is now reaping. Mr. Metcalfe had made the worst possible arrangements, notwithstanding the protest of several Commissioners, for the assessment of the tax, and although Mr. Souttar is gradually mending them, still the oppressions and hardships, which have resulted, are fearful. Hundreds of cases have been brought to our notice, in which the assessment has been made apparently without any enquiry or any reference to principle. Add to these hardships the poor tax-payers are obliged to dance attendance for days together for the payment of their unjust dues. In this dreadful weather they do not get a shady place to put their heads under; cheats prowl about and take money from ignorant and innocent persons with a view to deposit the same on their behalf, when lo! the obliging agents are *non est*! and even when the municipal underlings do take money with their own hands, they grant no sort of receipt immediately, but tell the tax-payers, *kal ao*! They return the next day, and are not unfrequently doomed to a wild goose chase in obtaining a formal receipt. Cannot the Warrant Department be accommodated in the Dhurumtolla Market, in the vegetables shed, which is empty? The crowd which assemble daily, will be thus comfortably accommodated. And why should not a sufficient establishment be sanctioned for the receipt of money? We do hope that Mr. Souttar will personally look into this matter.

WE THANK the postal authorities for a copy of their Postal Guide for 1879. The Guide contains the latest information regarding postal matters and the Department seems to be anxious to increase its usefulness by presenting details in a form to admit of their being easily utilized by the public. While the Guide this year contains as much or more matter than in former years it is made more handy and less bulky. We think, however, in the form in which the list of Indian Post Offices is presented utility and convenience have been sacrificed to economy.

LAST WEEK witnessed the death of another scion of a noble house in Bengal. Kumar Bejoygobind Roy, son of Raja Rajnarain of Andul, died at the early age of 24, and with him the house becomes extinct. The deceased had no sons, and we are not aware of his having had any daughter. He was worth more than a lakh of rupees a year, and he has settled his property upon a distant relative providing for a monthly allowance of Rs. 100 each to his two widows. The Kumar would not have deserved notice but for the family to which he belonged. He led a secluded ascetic life and passed his days in the performance of his devotions. He lived on one meal a day, which he partook after sunset. It is believed that the disease which terminated his existence was brought on by the austerities he practised. His father Raja Rajnarain will be long remembered for his advocacy of the claims of Kayasts to the Brahminical thread, who he maintained were Khettries. He made many converts to his faith, but he did not succeed in obtaining a national recognition of the claims he so stoutly maintained.

LAST SATURDAY'S *Englishman* contains a very interesting letter analysing the prices of salt given in the last number of the *Calcutta Gazette*. We give the following extract from it:

The analysis, as given below, of the prices of salt in different places in Bengal, Behar and Orissa, as published in yesterday's *Calcutta Gazette*, shows that in 22 out of 46 places there has been no decline from the prices for the corresponding period last year; that in four places there has actually been an increase, so that the benefit derived apparently from the recent reduction of duty in 24 places can hardly be reckoned as a benefit to half the country.

Any one viewing the report with preconceived impressions about how things are managed by the executive authorities, will be naturally disposed to ask if the benefit even to the 24 places is real. And the suspicion finds in my mind at least considerable support from the fact that I am not aware of any reduction of price from my bazar accounts, although the *Gazette* gives me the refreshing information that in the 24 Perganas the retail price of salt has declined from 8 seers 12 chittacks to 9 seers per rupee. Indeed, for the matter of that, I hardly know whether "24-Parganas" means an average of prices in different parts of the district, or the price in some out-of-the-way shop in Alipore, whence the office establishment have to make their purchases. But perhaps it will be impertinent to mention that any one desirous of having clear ideas on the subject may wish to know where, and from how many places, or shops, the reported figures have been got, and for what quantities of the articles the prices may be reckoned. These facts may be troublesome to ascertain, but, short of such facts, it may not be becoming even in the highest authority in the country to boast of the blessings conferred upon the poor by the reduction of salt duty. By the way, can you tell me where I can find the average quantity of salt consumed per head in this country and the quantity necessary per head for culinary purposes? It may be all very well to say that salt, if cheap enough, would be largely employed in pickling, manuring and for food of cattle, but one has to get at these ideas only from books and papers in the English language.

The reduction of the salt duty has chiefly benefited the dealer but not the consumer.

WE GIVE a prominent insertion to the following telegram from London:

London, April 25th.—The Under-Secretary for India, replying to a question, said that it was true that the Viceroy had reduced the cotton duties in opposition to the views of the majority of his Council, but that his action in the matter was perfectly constitutional. The Secretary for India in 1876, after full consideration, directed the removal of the duties. Sir George Campbell gave notice of a motion, condemning the action of the Viceroy as unconstitutional.

So our information about the majority of the Council having opposed the remission of the duties has turned out to be correct. Will not the minutes of the dissenting members be published? We hope Sir George Campbell has given notice of motion in consultation with the leaders of the Indian Reform party in the House of Commons.

THE STATESMAN reproduces the following words of Lord Lytton, which his Lordship uttered in his reply to the address of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce on his arrival in this country regarding the cotton duties: "He was of opinion that, with the exception of about forty thousand pounds sterling, the duties were not protective, because Manchester had no Indian competitors in finer manufactures. He thought the £800,000 collected yearly as duty on finer fabrics a fair item of revenue. With regard to the duty on coarse goods, he thought it protective, because Bombay mills competed with Manchester; but he did not see how it could be abolished, because it would lead to irregularities in order to evade duty." Compare these words with Lord Lytton's reply to the British Indian Association, and the contrast is edifying.

THE LAST *Calcutta Gazette* contains the correspondence between the Government of Bengal and the Government of India on the appointment of the Commission for the amendment of the Rent law. This move is due to the advice of Mr. Mackenzie, who, as the author of the Rent Bill now before the Bengal Council, seeing the difficulty of amending the procedure for the trial of rent suits to the satisfaction of all parties, without amendiug the general rent law, laid a proposal before the Select Committee for a general revision of the rent law. This proposal was also backed by the British Indian Association, whose letter to Government we give below:

In continuation of my letter dated 7th February last, I have the honor, by desire of the Committee of the British Indian Association, to state, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, that they have perused the Rent Bill as amended by the select committee, and that in their opinion the amendments made, far from facilitating the recovery of rent, will interpose greater difficulties than the existing law offers.

2. With regard to the provisions regarding the sale and sub-letting of occupancy tenures the committee submit that some of the amendments made in this chapter will, instead of improving or simplifying, tend to complicate matters.

3. The committee do not wish to enter into details, as it appears that the majority of the select committee would prefer to see the measure postponed absolutely until next session, steps being taken meantime to prepare and circulate a complete draft of a revised rent law in Bengal, in which the provisions of the present Bill, and of the Bill for the settlement of lands on the application of landholders and ryots, might be incorporated with such further amendments of Act X of 1859 and Bengal Act VIII of 1869 as experience and the decisions of the courts have shown to be really necessary. The select committee add, "it is feared that many of the provisions of the Bill will be found eventually so intimately connected with other portions of the existing law, not ostensibly affected by it, that the majority of the committee would prefer to see the whole subject of a revision of the rent law once for all fairly faced."

4. The committee of the British Indian Association are inclined to agree with the select committee that a general revision of the rent law is preferable to piece meal amendment but the task is arduous, and requires much care and consideration. They would take the liberty to suggest that a sketch of an amended Bill may be prepared by some competent officers well versed with the history and working of the rent law, and then submitted to the public for criticism. After these criticisms are obtained the Bill may be revised either by the same officers or by a mixed committee of official and non-official gentlemen and then submitted to the Legislature for consideration.

The Bengal Government, accepting the proposal of the Select Committee, submitted it to the Government of India for sanction, which has been duly accorded. The Commission consists of the following gentlemen :

Hon'ble H. L. Dampier,—President.
Hon'ble J. O'Kinealy,—Legal Remembrancer.
Mr. C. D. Field,—District Judge, Burdwan.
Mr. H. L Harrison,—Secretary to the Board of Revenue.
And Babu Brojendrocoomar Seal,—Sub-Judge 24 Perghs.

The Commission is well constituted. It has no non-official element, and this course was recommended by the British Indian Association. Let the official mind prepare the Bill unhampered by any external circumstances, and it will be then time for the non-official community to discuss it.

THE INCORPORATED Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool has recorded the following Resolution on the Silver question :

That a fixed ratio between gold and silver, in conjunction with unlimited freedom of mintage and the recognition of the two metals as full legal tender money, would if adopted by the majority of the leading monetary Powers including England and India, be adequate to restore silver to its former international value as money. 2. That it is desirable that our Government should adopt measures for securing an international agreement, by which silver may be restored to its legitimate share in producing metallic currency sufficient for the wants of the world.

In order to give practical effect to their conclusions your committee unanimously recommend that the result of their investigations together with the resolutions adopted shall without loss of time, be placed in the hands of her Majesty's Ministers. Your committee would, in conclusion, refer to the fact that nearly all the members of your special committee attended the meetings with regularity, and were deeply impressed with a sense of the great importance of this inquiry. They desire also to place on record the unanimity with which resolutions so weighty have been adopted. At the commencement of their investigations there was manifest much aversion from adopting conclusions which so directly impugn the wisdom of our monetary legislation of 1816, by which gold was made sole legal tender money in England. If the free mintage system of France had not been suspended, and if monetary legislation on the Continent of Europe had not been made, like our own, directly adverse to the use of silver as money in the world, your committee would not have been called on to consider the wisdom or unwisdom of our own position. The necessity of the case, however, has compelled us to face the question in all its bearings. Natural antipathy and aversion have yielded to conviction, and your committee would here mention the fact, that some of their number who at the outset were disinclined to the remedial measures which were ultimately and unanimously recommended, became at last their warmest supporters. Your committee are aware that the remedy proposed is not generally believed to be in harmony with the opinions which have for many years prevailed in England. They are persuaded, however, that if thoughtful men throughout the country will deliberately and without prejudice consider the whole question connected as it is with the long continued marcantile and manufacturing distress, their conclusions will eventually come to be in most instances, in consonance with those of your committee.

So the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce has practically adopted the suggestion made in these columns. We had recommended that there should be employed throughout the British possessions a silver coin of a uniform standard. The Liverpool Chamber would extend it to all civilized countries in the world and declare it legal tender in conjunction with gold. We doubt whether the continental powers would at once yield to such a proposition, but if England leads the way, they must follow it hereafter.

WAR TELEGRAMS.

(From the Press Commissioner.)

From Candahar information received that Persian regiments from Meshed are moving toward the Afghan frontier. The dam across Helmand at Kubak has been carried away and failure of crops in Seistan probable. In Herat the Cabul and Candahar regiments are considered untrustworthy. Three Sirdars are imprisoned and the Governor Umar Khan is under open arrest. From Dera Ghazi Khan Captain Showers First Punjab Infantry and Lieutenant Wells R. E. accompanied by Marri chiefs and escorted by number of Marris Mazaries and Drishaks proceeded to reconnoitre direct route between Vitakrie and that through the Marri hills. Their baggage escort was attacked by thieves and three syces and one Tarwan killed, and others wounded. The baggage was recovered by Marri Chiefs and two murderers secured. Measures were being taken to apprehend the remaining murderers, who were, if caught, to be tried by Military Commission. News from Peshawar :—a party of robbers from Bazar carried off several Koochi camels from the Road three miles from below Ali Musjid on twenty first. Pursuit was ineffectual. News from Lundi Kotal. Two companies were sent previous day from Dakka to village Kum Dakka, seven miles distant to aid villagers against hostile Momunds. Subsequent reports showed the latter to be in force and reinforcements were moving from Lundi Kotal to act if required.

On the twenty first Capt. Creagh, with detachment Mahairfwara battalion was sent to Kam Dakka seven miles distant, to reinforce the village supposed to be threatened. On twenty second, twelve hundred Momunds crossed the river surrounded Creaghs detachment, the latter was reinforced from Lundikotal and the whole force returned without opposition to Dhakka having relieved the threatend village. The enemy lost fourteen killed and sixteen wounded. One force had twenty five casualttes. A force under Colonel Norman had started from Lundikotal for Kam Dakka and bivouacked there. Colonel Norman proposed to reconnoitre further down the river.

MONEY MARKET.

(*April* 26, 1879.)

GOVERNMENT LOANS.

4	Per Cent. Promissory Notes	Rs.	92	8	*a*	92	12
4½	Per Cent. of 1870 (1885).....	„	97	0	*a*		
4½	Per Cent. of 1871 (1881)	„	96	8	*a*	97	0
4½	Per Cent. of (Trans.) of 1872 (1879)	Reduced to 4			p.	ct.	
4½	Per Cent. of 1878 (1893).....	„	97	14	*a*	98	4
5½	Per Cent. of 1859-60(1879)	„	Nominal.				

GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES OF 1867.

5	Per Cent. for 15 years (1882)...	Rs.	100	4	*a*	100	8

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

6	Per Cent. of 1864 (1884)	... Rs.	106	0	*a*	106	0
6	Per Cent. of 1865 (1885)	„	106	8	*a*	107	0
6	Per Cent. of 1866 (1886)	„	107	8	*a*	103	0
6	Per Cent. of 1867 (1887)	„	108	8	*a*	109	8
6	Per Cent. of 1870 (1890)	„	110	0	*a*	110	0
6	Per Cent. of 1872 (1892)	„	110	8	*a*	111	8
5	Per Cent. of 1878 (1908)	„	101	8	*a*	102	8

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	A.	P.
Manaukaram Suryaram Esq., Girgaum	5	0	0
Kowar Deo Naraun Singh, Chaprah	4	4	0
Secretary Satara Library	13	4	0
G. A. Mittra, Esq. Umballa	20	0	0
Moulvi Imdad Ali Rajmehal	20	0	0
Gopal Vishwas Rao Esq. Dhar	13	4	0
J. O. Gordon Esq., Mysore	13	4	0
Pundit Joynarain Vajpee Esq Mozufferpore	13	4	0
Dr. Debendra Nath Roy, British Burmah	4	0	0
S. Balkrishna Naidoo Esq. Ranighanta	20	0	0
J. C. Sirkar Esq. Delhi	9	0	0
Bancoorah Public Library	13	4	0
Raja Bissessur Mallia Bahadoor Raneegunj	13	4	0
Baboo Bishen Lal Raijad, Barriely	13	4	0
„ Aghore Chunder Mookerjee, Krishnagore	10	0	0
„ Rajony Kant Mookerjee, Karnal	13	4	0
„ Shib Chunder Bose, Baukipore	6	10	0
„ Kadar Nath Chatterjee, Sonagachee Reading Somaj	6	10	0
„ Nil Comal Lahory, Lahore	13	0	0
„ Debendra Coomar Roy Chowdry, Barripore	20	0	0
„ Sree Nath Chatterjee, Malibund	6	10	0
„ Deno Bundoo Kor, Rampore Hat	6	10	0
„ Nobin Chunder Sen, Madareepore	10	0	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*April* 23, 1879.

GENERAL.—Mr. W B. Oldham, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Perguunahs, is vested with the powers of a Settlement Officer under Regulation 3 of 1872.

The following officers are vested with the powers of a Collector under Act VII (B.C.) of 1868 :—

Mr. T. A, Donough, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Jamalpore division, Mymensingh.

Baboo Brojokant Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Atia division, Mymensingh.

Baboo Khetter Gopal Roy, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Kissoregunge division Mymensingh.

Baboo Chunder Seeker Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Ranaghat division of the Nuddea district, is allowed leave for 21 days under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 23rd instant.

Baboo Tarun Chunder Sirkar, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, is appointed to have temporary charge of the Ranaghat division of that district during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Chunder Seeker Banerjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Krishna Chunder Dutt. Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patuakhally, Backergunge, on leave, is posted to the Sudder Station of the Furreedpore district.

The orders of the 18th February 1879, granting three month's privilege leave to Baboo Parbutty Churn Roy Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, employed on settlement work, Dacca, are cancelled.

Baboo Nobin Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Madaripore, Furreedpore, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Perozepore division of the Backergunge district.

Mr. J. Boxwell reported his departure from India on furlough on the 7th instant.

Baboo Kali Prosano Sircar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 for the purpose of acquiring land required for public purposes in that district.

Baboo Radha Syam Sing, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, on leave, is transferred to Chumparun.

Moulvi Anwaruddin Ahmed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakholly is vested with the powers of a Collector, under Act X of 1870, for the purpose of acquiring land required for purposes in that district.

Mr. E. H. Ruddock Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for 12 days, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 19th May next.

Mr. F. B. Taylor Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Jessore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. E. H Ruddock, or until further orders.

Mr. J. C. Geddes, Officiating District and Sessions Judge Tipperah, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Districts and Sessions Judge of Burdwan *vice* Mr. C. D. Field on special duty.

In supersession of the orders of the 29th ultimo, Mr. W. F. Meres, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector Tipperah, is appointed to act, until further orders, as District and Sessions Judge, Tipperah, *vice* Mr. J. C. Geddes.

Baboo Bhoobunnessur Sing, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Gya district.

Mr. F. J. G. Campbell, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, who reported his return from furlough on the morning of the 8th instant, is posted to Dinagepore.

Baboo Ramakhoy Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Tumlook division of the Midnapore district, is allowed leave for one month, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code with effect from such date as he may be relieved of his duties.

Kumar Barendra Krishna, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to have charge of the Tumlook division of that district, during the absence on leave, of Baboo Ramakhoy Chatterjee, or until further orders.

Mr. E. M. Lewis is appointed to be Superintendent of Government Printing, Bengal, with effect from the date on which he assumed charge of that appointment.

Mr. R. H. Wilson, Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to act until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collector's with effect from the 11th instant *vice* Mr. D. R. Lyall.

Mr. E. A. Bradbury, Officiating Magistrate and Collector Rajshahye, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors *vice* Mr. R. H. Wilson.

Baboo Mohendro Nath Chattacherjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Bankoora, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870, for the purpose of acquiring land required for public purposes in that district.

Mr. H. F. J. Keau, Magistrate and Collector, Monghyr, is allowed leave for six weeks, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

JUDICIAL.—The orders of the 24th February 1879, transferring Baboo Kedar Nath Roy, Additional Moonsiff of Nelphamaree in Rungpore, and of the Sudder Moonsiffee of that district, to Tirhoot, and appointing him to be Second Moonsiff of the Sudder Moonsiffee of that place, are cancelled.

Baboo Kali Coomar Bose, B.L., Second Sudder Moonsiff of Dinagepore, is transferred to Tirhoot, and is appointed to be Moonsiff of the Sudder Moonsiffee of that place.

The names of Baboos Nara Narayan Roy, and Madhub Narayan Roy, are removed from the list of Honorary Magistrates of the district of Backergunge.

Baboo Dinanath Sen, Assistant Inspector of Schools, Chittagong Division, is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate for the Sudder Bench in the District of Chittagong, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the Third Class.

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Midnapur Collectorate, Wards Department, Dated 23rd April, 1879.

R. H. WILSON,
Collector.

NOTICE.

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Apply to the Deputy Commissioner, Debrugarh."

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Aligarh,
19th April 1879.

NOTICE.

I with great pleasure announce to the public that, having often talked with the Native Pundits, and English Scholars, I was never satisfied with the manner of their giving interliniar meanings of Pustaks and Books, eventually I had brought the circumstance to the Scientific Notice of the Director of Public Instructions on the 12th February 1879, and obtained his answer No. 1158 of the very month, and now it appears in the *Patriot* of the 14th. Mr. C. B. Nicholson M.A. says, an English Academy composed of the leading Philologists ought to be formed.

KALEEPUD GHOSAL.

NOTICE.

Dr. M. M. Bose, M. D. L. R. C. P. &c,. Graduate of New York Homœopathic Medical College, can be consulted daily from 7 to 8 A. M., at 18, Mott's Lane, Wellington Square.

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PATNA AND GYA (STATE) RAILWAY.

OPENING OF THE FIRST SECTION FOR PUBLIC TRAFFIC.

On and after Monday the 21st April 1879 the first section of this Railway 28 miles including the Stations of Bankipur, Poonpoon, Masourhi, and Jehanabad, will be open to the Public for Passenger and Goods Traffic.

Trains will leave Bankipur at 11 A. M. and 5-30 P. M. daily for Jehanabad and intermediate stations, and Jehanabad at 7 A. M. and 1-45 P. M. for Bankipur and intermediate stations.

Pilgrims booked through to Jehanabad desirous of bathing in the River Poonpoon may break journey at that Station between Trains.

Further information can be obtained from the Traffic Inspector, Bankipur, or on application to undersigned.

By order.

W. MOWBRAY JOHNSTON.

Assistant Traffic Supdt.

Traffic Superintendent's Office.
Tirhoot Somastipur, April 15th 1879.

Notice.

The Vice-Chairmanship of the Calcutta Corporation is vacant. Applications will be received up to the 3rd May next. A thorough knowledge of accounts is essential.

R. WILLIAMSON,
Offg. Secretary to the Corporation.

SUIT No. 7 OF 1878.

In the High Court of Judicature at Fort William.
in Bengal.
Ordinary Original.
Civil Jurisdiction.

Shamlall Mullick of No. 6 Hurropersaud Day's Lane in the Town of Calcutta Assistant to Messieurs Moran and Company.

—AGAINST—

Monemohiney Dassee of No. 6 Hurropersaud Day's Lane aforesaid widow of Denobundo Mullick deceased Manick Lall Mullick of the same place without employment, Nursinglall Mullick of No. 6 Sobaram Bysack's 2nd Lane, Colootollah in Calcutta aforesaid cashier to Messieurs Sehoene-Kilburn and Company Punnalall Mullick of No. 6 Hurropersaud Day's Lane aforesaid without employment. Aushootosh Mullick of the same place an infant of the age of six years or thereabouts and Tarruck Nath Mullick of the same place also an infant of the age of four years or thereabouts.

To be peremptorily sold by Charles Thomas Davis Esq. the Commissioner of partition appointed in the above cause at his chambers in the Lower floor of the Court House on Saturday the tenth day of May one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine at the hour of twelve o'clock at noon pursuant to the Decree made in the above suit on the sixteenth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight the following property either in one lot or four several lots as described below as may suit intending purchasers.

Lot No. 1.—All that piece of Garden land or ground containing by estimation Three Biggahs fourteen cattahs six chuttacks and thirty-six square feet more or less, situate lying and being at No. 55 Narcoledangah Road in the Suburbs of Calcutta being the Northern portion of the Garden land as marked on the plan lot No. A. and being portion of holding No. 165 Grand Division 3 Sub-Division 12 in Mouza Narcoledangah in Dehee Punchannogram and bounded as follows on the north by the public drain, and the property of Bhuggobutty Churn Biswas and others, on the south by the lot No. 7 hereinafter mentioned on the east by the property of late Hurrolall Mitter and on the west by the Road called Narcoledangah Road.

Lot No. 2.—All that piece of Garden land or ground containing by estimation three Biggahs Eleven Cattahs Six Chittacks and Thirty square feet more or less situate lying and being No 35 Narcoledangah Road in the suburbs of Calcutta being portion of the Garden land as marked in the plan lot No. B. and portion of the holding No. 165 Grand Division 3 Sub-Division 12 in Mouza Narcoledangah in Dehee Punchannogram and bounded as follows on the North by the lot No. 6 herein before mentioned on the South by lot No. 8 hereinafter mentioned on the East by theproperty of late Hurro Lall Mitter, and on the West by the Road called Narcoledangah Road.

Lot. No. 3.—All that piece of Garden land or ground containing by estimation Five Biggahs Eleven Cattahs Three Chittacks and two square feet more or less situate lying and being No. 32 Narcoledangah Road in the suburbs of the Town of Calcutta being portion of the Garden land as marked in the plan lot No. C. and being of the holding No. 165 Grand Division 3 Sub-Division 12 in Mouza Narcoledangah in the Dechee Punchannogram and bounded as follows on the North by the lot No. 7 hereinbefore mentioned on the South by the lot No. 9 hereinafter mentioned on the East by the property of the late Hurro Lall Mitter, and Juddoo Nath Ghose, and public Lane called Susteetollah Lane and on the West by the Road called Narcoledangah Road.

Lot. No. 4.—All that piece of Garden land or ground containing by Estimation Three Biggahs Four Cattahs and Fourteen Square feet more or less situate lying and being at No. 35 Narcoledangah Road in the suburbs of the Town of Calcutta being portion of Garden land as marked in lot No. D. and being portion of the holding No. 165 Grand Division 3 Sub-Division 12 in Mouza Narcoledangah in Deehee Punchannogram and bounded as follows on the North by the lot No. 8 hereinbefore mentioned on the South partly by the property of Fakeer Chand Banerjee, and partly by the property of Abdool Khansamah on the East by the lane called Sasteetollah Lane and on the West by the Road called Narcoledangah Road.

The conditions of the sale and abstract of Title may be seen on application to Mr. Davis at the Court House or to Mr. Richard Rutter Plaintiff's Attorney at his Office No. 10 Hasting's Street in Calcutta on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

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A gold guard chain attached to the above.

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But though India will be its speciality, the paper that we propose to establish, will not be exclusively Indian, but will deal with the whole range of English politics, domestic as well as foreign, insular as well as Imperial. Social questions and current literature will also receive their due share of regard therein. What we aim at, is a high class Liberal paper with an Indian *specialite*, interested in all matters in which the nation at large is interested, discussing them in the light of advanced Liberal principles, and accepting as the expression of our policy, the old Liberal sentiment—"The cause of Civil and Religious Liberty all over the world."

Our hope is to awaken by means of this paper, a deeper interest in India and a higher sense of our responsibilities as its rulers, than unhappily at present exist; and to do this, by floating Indian affairs into public notice, on the strength of the Imperial and domestic interest which they so vitally affect.

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"STATESMAN AND FRIEND OF INDIA" OFFICE,
Calcutta, 2nd April 1879.

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Baboo Khetter Nauth Bhattacharjee (late of the Public Works and Road Cess Department) will undertake to design and superintend the construction of Buildings and to act as an Engineer and Surveyor in the partition of House and landed properties. Communications to be addressed to him at 70/1 Sookea's Street, Calcutta.

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Author of Keys to the University Entrance, Courses (English) for the years 1867, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72. 73, &c., Lethbridge's (Large) Selections, &c., &c. now residing at No. 19, Chassadhobapara Lane, Cossipore, via—Barranagore Post Office, in the North Suburbs of Calcutta.

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DISTRICT CHARITABLE SOCIETY.

The Residence of the Honorary Secretary to the above Society is at No. 18 Lall Bazar Street.

The Society is in urgnt need of funds and contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by

J. LAMBERT,
Honorary Secretary.

10*th January* 1879.

By appointment,
To HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHEERAJ OF BURDWAN.

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If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. If it be of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. It also restores the virile powers which have been lost on account of the malady.

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Price of Piping per foot ... As. ...		12,	Re. 1	...	...		1-4
Gallons Water, Per minute ...		4,	6,	8,	10	12,	13, 15.

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	2½	3	3½	4 in.
Rs.	40,	55,	65,	75 each.
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On and from 15th instant the Ferry charge for all goods carried at special rates, such as jute, Tobacco, Food Grain and Salt will be reduced to 9 pie per maund.

Traffic Superintendent's Office, Saidpur, 18th April, 1879. } By Order G. M. DAUBE *Traffic Supdt.*

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Cures the worst forms of

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Ague.

This mixture is largely used in Calcutta and the surrounding districts and never fails to effect a radical cure of any of the above Fevers, even in the worst cases, if proper attention be paid to the instructions accompanying each bottle.

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For convenience of transit by post, this mixture is made in a *concentrated* form with clear instructions for diluting. It is particularly recommended to tea planters, missionaries, and others residing in the interior, both on account of its admirable properties, as a curative and preventative Agent and of its extreme cheapness. A large sized bottle of concentrated mixture will make *one quart* of Fever Mixture.

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Sold only by J. CORFIELD & Co.

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Corfield's Spleen Mixture has a very large sale in lower Bengal, and is approved by numerovs Medfcal men who are constantly prescribing it.

A few doses are sufficient to reduce an enlargement, and if the mixture be persevered in for a short time, it will effect a permanent cure.

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Full directions in English and Bengali accompany each bottle.

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An absolute specific for Influenza or cold in the head.

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The best medicine to take after fever or any other debilitating disease. It excites the appetite and puts the patient in strength in an incredibly short space of time.

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General Court of Directors.

Right Hon'ble Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., & P.C., Chairman.

Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE

Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company, Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last :—

Life Business.

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1026 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049: 10: 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863: 10: 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446: 17: 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576: 19: 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248: 8: 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768: 11: 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479: 16: 6.

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Pains of every description have been cured by the outward application only of this medicine, when all the skill of the medical art has been tried without effect.

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☞ Call for DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER. Thousands of Testimonials of the marvellous cures by this remedy.

The following is from an influential zemindar, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of Burisaul, and one who writes after taking from us 9 bottles of the Infallible Pain-Curer.

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Dear Sirs,—Please send me two bottles more (large size) of your Infallible Pain-Curer. I am happy to observe that I have witnessed beneficial results from its application. Some of my friends used it, and I also gave to some of my servants, I was pleasingly surprised to see that in every instance it kept true to its name. Yours faithfully.—EDWARD BROWN.

GENTLEMEN,—I enclose two currency notes of ten rupees each and beg you will kindly send me eight bottles more (large size) of your famous "Infallible Pain-Curer" which is undoubtedly worthy of its name. Yours most obediently, Digamber Pershad, English teacher to Baboo Sreedhur Sahi, Zemindar of Manjha, camp Ajodhya in Fyzabad.

Rev. Mother of St. Joseph's Convent, Bandora, Bombay Presy, writes :

Dear Sirs,—We find the Infallible Pain-Curer efficacious, and are glad to know of it as being a useful medicine.

I remain, Yours truly, SISTER THEODORINE.
Superioress Felia de la Croix.

Gentlemen,—I herewith send you the value and shall feel obliged by your sending me by post another bottle (large size) of the Infallible Pain Curer. I find that the medicine is doing me great deal of good.

CHINTAMAN SAKHARAM CHITIUS. Subordinate Judge.
Kaira, Guzrath, Bombay Presidency.

Dear Sirs.—Your Infallible Pain-Curer, which was sent to Baboo Rajkisore Chatterjee Toondla has done him good and he writes me to send him another bottle as early as possible. Will you have the goodness to send up without delay another bottle (large size) of the same sort you forwarded last time to him. Yours faithfully,

KISORY MOHUN CHATTERJEE, 4 Fairlie Place, Calcutta.

Gentlemen,—Lately I had taken from you a bottle of your famous "No More Pains" which has almost relieved me of all my pains. I beg to enclose a remittance in postage stamps, and hope you will be pleased to send me another bottle of the same medicine.

Yours faithfully, RAJENDRA NATH CHATTERJEE, Hallisahur Khasbatty, *via* Kanchraparah, Camp Rungown.

Gentlemen,—I enclose Telegraph Stamps, and beg you will kindly send me another bottle of your "Infallible Pain-Curer," which is undoubtedly worthy of its name.

Yours faithfully,
P. THORPE, No. 39 Anderson Street, Black Town, Madras.

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